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Catherine Bennett on the new émigrés he great

HE BEC



Society

Why did Ebola surface in Africa?

G2 pages 10/11

Probation pay linked to crime

Rises to depend on client honesty

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

ROBATION offi ers are to be put on performance linked whether their criminal "clients" are con-victed again, under proposals from Michael Howard, the

The scheme linking part of their pay to whether the criminals they supervise go into force this summer. It will mean that for some probation officers crime won't pay.

Under the scheme, probation officers supervising of-fenders who breach their court orders or get recalled to prison while they are out on licence can expect only small pay rises or no increase at all. Labour's home affairs spokesman. Alun Michael. last night said he was alarmed by the idea: "The

supervision of serious offenders is too serious to be left to a Home Secretary who creates disaster out of everything he touches," he said. The Home Office is to put

forward the idea in this year's pay negotiations, which are about to start. An unpublished Home Office document outlining the scheme for developing merit | pre-sentence report to courts; | sentences are n pay in the Probation Service | and the number of welfare | as a soft option.



follows repeated complaints penalties supervised by the service need to be more

lemanding. It says economies must be sought in all aspects of the service's operation.

"It remains Government policy that pay levels in the public sector should be linked to solve the sector should be linked.

who contribute the most to the success of an organisation receive a greater share of the money available, while those who contribute less, get less,"

the document says.
It makes clear that Mr How ard has expressed clear back-ing for the scheme and notes that local and national targets and performance indicators can be used to measure group and individual performances.

Among the indicators to de-termine individual pay are: reconviction rates for those subject to community service orders; the numbers of community orders completed without breach or further re-offending; the number of li-cences completed without breach leading to recall to prison; the average number of

days.
Probation officers have Probation officers have greeted the plan with scepticism. Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said: "This will be impossible to administer. It was ludicrous when they tried to link police pay to the number of arrests and it is equally absurd for probation. "It will be impractical and

unworkable. It will outrage staff, it will encourage proba-tion staff to recommend for supervision under commu-nity orders only those offenders who will not re-offend.
Recently the type of person coming on to probation has been tougher, that is, with Those who have been to prison will be less likely to be

they offend again."
Mr Michael said Labour favoured measures which assessed the performance of probation officers. "However, tently got it all wrong, for example, by setting the wrong criteria and targets for the

"There is a great danger that by setting the wrong targets you encourage the wrong things. For example, if you measure only the success in measure only the stacess in completing a probation order there is a danger that you will just discourage probation offi-cers from taking offenders who commit minor breaches back to court."

The performance-related pay plan is linked to a wider package of reforms of commi-nity sentences being put for-ward by Mr Howard, includ-ing the expansion of electronic tagging trials. New powers are to be given to the courts to ensure that probaworking days to provide a tion and other community pre-sentence report to courts; sentences are no longer seen

John Prescott (right) woos floating voters with Brian Jenkins, Labour's candidate in tomorrow's byelection Tories 'more rightwing than 80s', page 2 PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN ARGLES

Rates cut in loans war

Mortgage battle drives interest charges to lowest since 1965

Jill Papworth and Richard Thomas

third largest mortgage lender, has fired the latest shot in the mortgage war by cutting its standard home loans rate to the industry's loans rate to the industry's lowest since January 1965.

The move is the latest attempt by the mutuals — the original concept building societies — to fend off the heightening competition from the banks and the newly public societies, such as the Halfax, Alliance and Leicester and the Woolwich who are offering cash and share handfering cash and share hand-

ATIONWIDE, the UK's

outs to borrowers and savers.
Nationwide's quarter per-centage point reduction to
6.71 per cent takes effect for new and existing borrowers from May 1 when the society will also cut its banking and saving rates by an average

The mortgage cut shaves review but 17.05 a month of a £50,000 follow suit.

repayment mortgage and

only loan.
Nationwide borrowers will
be paying £14.44 less per
month on a £50,000 repayment mortgage and £19.34 less on an interest-only loan than customers of Britain's largest mortgage lender, the Halifax, whose standard variable mortgage rate is 7.25 per cent.
The new mortgage cut was
matched within hours yesterday by the Yorkshire Building Society and is likely to be
followed by other committed

mutuals.
David Anderson, chief executive elect of the Yorkshire said: "Yet again the benefits of membership of a leading mutual are clear for all to see. This restablishes the clear water between the committed mutuals and the banks and mutuals and the banks and would-be plcs."

Banking rivals and converting societies all say they are keeping their rates under review but have no plans to

Nationwide's move re-es-tablishes a competitive ad-vantage of roughly 0.5 points on both mortgage and savings rates over its banking and converting building society converting building society rivals. Its earlier competitive gap narrowed when the bank base rate was cut in early March, prompting most lenders to cut 0.25 per cent points off their mortgage rates.

Hopes that lending rates could fall even lower were demand by a wereing to the

dampened by a warning to the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, from his own advisers that further base rate cuts could put the Government's infla-tion target in jeopardy. In their latest half-yearly report, the Treasury's pane

of economic forecasters — dubbed the "Wise People" since the inclusion of two women — said the next move was more likely to be up.

The panel also urged caution on budget tax cuts, warning that, with public borrowing likely to hit £25 billion in 1996/7, any giveaway of more than £3 billion would not be justified.

High street sales stated,

Police in hot pursuit get to bottom of naked suspect's burning desire for freedom

T WAS the low mouning coming from the airing cup-board that gave the game away. That, and the smell of gently frying flesh.

Both were clues for two police officers calling at the Southampton. Hampshire,

home of a man suspected of failing to pay court fines. The 33-year-old suspect had been caught unawares by the police while sleeping peace-fully and naked. With no time for a daring leap through the bedroom

escape route and hid in the airing cupboard.

The first few moments were bearable, if a little warm. But as the police search dragged out from minute to minute, the sensation began to grow from discomfort into pain.

In the suspect's haste to hide, he had perched his exposed buttocks on the only space available — the top of the hot water tank. A police spokesman said yesterday

that the suspect's torture had lasted 10 minutes. "The officers opened the door of the airing cupboard him," the police spokesman and there he was inside, look-said. "His pride has taken a window, he took the next best | ing like he was in a lot of

pain. He got off pretty quickly." Not quickly enough, how-ever, to avoid third degree burns to both cheeks, which were so badly frazzled they had raw skin peeling of them. The man spent two hours in hospital being

bathed and soothed with anti-septic cream before he was

leemed capable of appearing before magistrates. Such was the universal em-pathy aroused by his plight, that the authorities treated the man leniently. He has not been named, which may spare several blushes, and de-spite facing 17 counts of refusal to pay fines, Southampton magistrates granted

him bail.

Comment and Letters 8 Obřtuaries 10 sword 15; Weather 16 Radio 16; TV 16

Britain heads for drought as rains fail

UCH of Britain faces severe water shortages this gets beavy rain for the next few weeks, according to the water companies. Supply reservoirs are at record low levels after last year's drought and an exception ally dry winter.

The worst hit are areas which normally record the country's highest rainfall—the North-west, Wales, and the West Country. Manchester, once the butt of a thousand jokes about constant rain, has had less than a third of normal. More than half of England and most of Wales face a

shortage this summer. Ministers have already asked for regular briefings on the situation, fearing that a repeat of last year's problems would spell polit-ical disaster. They have been told that everything

depends on there being an exceptionally wet sping.
There are 56 drought orders from last summer still in operation, compared with none at this time last year. Last spring, all Brit-ain's reservoirs were more than 95 per cent full after one of the wettest winters on record. This year compa-nies are considering tightter of weeks if it does not rain heavily.

Cold easterly winds have dominated this winter's weather and wet westerlies have been absent. February was slightly wetter than average but the rest of the winter was exceptionally

dry. The Met Office said that only one millimetre of rain bad fallen in England and Wales in the first nine days of this month, compared with the monthly average of 60 millimetres. In March there had been 49.6mm —

Water levels 90.5

already short of water it was significantly lower. the whole picture," a spokesman said. "The east has had near normal average rain but has dried out badly in the last few weeks. Berwick to Cornwall, and including the whole of the North-west, has been very

dry.
"It will have to rain hard for some weeks to get us back to normal, and there is no knowing whether that will happen or not. There are an awful lot of people anxious for rain, not least water companies, gardeners and farmers."
The National Rivers Au-

thority said autumn and winter rain had helped parts of Kent and Rasi Yorkshire were low. Of 31 rivers monitored for their long term average flow only two were above average and 13 were between 41 per cent and 80 per cent of normal. This week the worst reservoir levels were as low as 37 per cent full and there were five large ones below 60 per cent.

North West Water said: "We are updating the situa-tion every week and cannot believe the figures. We still have a hosepipe ban from last year but clearly that is 69 per cent of the average not going to be anyway rainfall but in some areas near enough."

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Inside

Britain The case of four men convicted of murdering newspaper boy Carl Bridgewater should be reopened; the prosecution lawyer has said

World News Israel forces in occupied south Lebanon are expected. to mount strong attacks on Hizbollah targets after the end of Passover week

Finance Stagnating export orders and stalling High Street sales have pushed the manufacturing sector to the brink of a fresh recession

before the opening of the Olympic games, alarm bells are ringing in the host city of 16

One hundred days

Sport

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Sketch

Art missionaries in hard sell



David Ward

AD a phone call from Sheffield the other day inviting a donation for the Lyceum and Crucible theatres. Made a change from double glazing or dancing les sons. Had a nice chat about arts funding but, stingy as ever, failed to cough up.

This, it seems, is arts tele-marketing, now hitting Brit-ain and likely to boom as the fashion for scatter-gun mail

Oxbridge colleges do something similar, giving students a few quid and a phone and urging them to screw donations out of alumni. Other universities don't do it because their students are too busy working in burger joints to make ends meet.

But let's stick to the arts. Yesterday T. Bob Brown. sometime actor, director and producer and now president of Artsmarketing Services Inc of Toronto, came to Manchester to spread the good news about telemarketing to arts

"The whole concept is to bring in people who love what you do and teach those people to sell what you do," he ex-

You, a theatre, orchestra, dance company, museum or even 200, hire a bunch of arts fans (resting actors?), give them a script and train them to invite potential patrons to come along and share the fun. You have responses prepared for any answer that comes down the line (with the exception of "T'm dead").

It seems to work: Mr Bown's 38,000 callers have raised \$125 million in North America since 1982, working for such outfits as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony in Washington DC, the Shakespeare Festival at Stratford, Ontario, and other US clients bit by cuts in public funding in the eighties. 'Ronald Reagan put me in

Beatrice Colin

Ross Sinclair — Real Life Rocky Mountain

Centre for Contemporary Arts.

T COULD easily be mis-

landscape. But the seven

Ross Sinclair's latest

theme park in the future where the Scots have voted to become live exhibits in a na-

metre square slice of simu-lated Scottish hillside, com-

taken for a free gift from a

giant cereal packet, or a life-size piece of model railway

plete with inhabitant, that bas

taken over the Centre for Con-

temporary Arts turns out to be

Explaining the setting as a

tionwide heritage centre, Sin-

clair invites the public to ob-

serve him like an alien being. a human hermit living on a tartan shortbread-tin vista.

Rolling slopes of acid green fake grass, a few fibreglass boulders, a fairly convincing

trickling pool, a wooden dwell

ing place and an assortment of stuffed indigenous animals

create what could be a High-

with his tangle of dreadlocks.

pottering about his small hut. Sometimes, like an animal

in a zoo, he comes out to play —strumming songs on one of

back to the viewer, he plays a

karaoke of tunes from Burns to the Bay City Rollers and

from Jacobite rebel songs to Bon Jovi, while a huge tattoo

At other times he makes pa-

a rack of guitars. With his

can be spotted sporadically

tory museum. Sinclair,

Scottish identity

Review

He also killed many fine arts

organisations."
When selling a concert
series, his staff will sing a hoven's fifth (ba-ba-ba-basa) to seduce the punter unfamil

with opus numbers.

"We help guide the person.
Do you want to sit up high and see the whole orchestra? Or do you want to be up close and have the conductor spit on you?" The trick is to make the

event accessible. You say you're not certain about classical music because you never know when to clap? It's easy, say the telemarketeers: you clap when the conductor puts his hands down.

"It's not like selling double glazing," said Mr Brown. "If it s, you're doing it wrong. If you are seiling something you believe in, it's not selling any more. It's like being a mission ary. We have ripped off from the commercial sector every-thing that works and have

It all started as a variant on the Tupperware party when a bunch of actors went on the road to publicise their show at a Toronto theatre. They did theatre parties, falling out of cars in full costume to offer dramatic snippets to audiences of 25 in someone's front

room. They got through five or six addresses a night. "It became the chi-chi thing to do in Toronto," remem-bered Mr Brown. "We sold thousands of tickets — but never give actors free alco-bol." The thespians were incoherent by the time they reached the third door bell.

Other drawbacks emerged when the scheme was exported to Georgia in the US. When a black actor under-studying Othello turned up in full costume on a doorstep, a resident, who may have been a theatre lover but was taking no chances, took a shot at him The actor suggested it might be a good idea to phone first. A revolution in arts marketing was born.

"If people don't open their doors, they will usually answer their phones," Mr Brown said.

It seems telemarketeers can sell anything, even a brush with death. Those employed by the Royal Ontario Museu offered tickets to watch experts fumigate an Egyptian corpse and got rid of the lot.

tempt to repopulate his plot in

appears on a video monitor singing into the void in differ-

Real Life Rocky Mountain is reminiscent of the chunk of

land floating in outer space in Tarkovsky's Solaris. It's a sur-

that somehow still stings with

familiarity. Beneath the tacky

surface is a gut-felt reaction to

the question of nationalism

and the heroic on to the pa-thetic make the piece work.

While he acts as a kind of join the dots rebel with all the

romantic intentions of Caspe

David Friedrich's Wanderer

Over A Sea Of Fog, his instal-lation is a fresh, disturbing yet ultimately honest com-

ment on Scottish and personal identity. Although the grass

may be fake, the sentiments crass and his renditions bed-room standard, he admits that it's all he's got.

The installation is on show at

CCA until April 22.

real, unrecognisable place

a work called The Highland

Clearances In Reverse or, if he's not there in person, he

ent locations in Scotland.

Blair accuses Loonylug candidate arrested in scuffle with Tories HE visit to Tamworth by | smoking and its acceptance the National Heritage Secretary, Virginia Bottom-ley (left), was yesterday of contributions from tobacco companies. Mr Sa-muelson, a retired barris-



overshadowed by a serious scuffle which led to the ar-rest of Tony Samuelson. the Daily Loonylug Raring-Up the World candidate, urites Rebecca Smithers:

Mr Samuelson wes removed from the town's Drayton Manor park while Mrs Bottomley and Tory candidate Jimmy James completed their visit.

On Monday, Mr Samuel-son gate-crashed a television interview with the Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, and Mr James, and strongly criticised the Gov-ernment's policies on

and does commit an offence we are going to take posi-tive action." which is leading this country into a golden age of prosper-ity," he told an invited audi-

vice about his behaviour. It has been made clear to him

that if he does attend fur-

ther campaign meetings

the peace occurred. -

visit to Tamworth during the campaign, spelled out the Conservatives' fears about to remind voters of the reasons why they had voted Conservative then, and the

foundations for the modern Conservative Party in Tamworth 160 years previously, Labour had broken with that democratic tradition and was hoping to win power "by hoping to win power stealth".

ter, is campaigning on an anti-smoking platform. Inspector Bob Titley, of Mr Blair, in a counter Staffordshire police, sald after yesterday's incident: attack during a question and answer session at Woodhouse Mr Samuelson was released after being held to ensure no further breach of icance of a Labour victory tomorrow, which would reduce Mr Major's Commons "No charges have been brought and I imagine he has been given suitable admajority to one and make an early general election more

likely.

"The Tories are terrified of losing this seat," be said.

"They know that if we win here it will be the cleares sign yet that we are back as the party of the mainstream majority. That people are not just voting against the Government, but voting for an op-position that is credible, real-istic and can give this

Speaking on the fourth antiversary of the Conservativers of the Conservatives' last general election ictory, Mr Heseltine exact. Cherie is a successful career woman in her own right and she wants to get on and do that. She has no desire to do

Saudis accuse **BBC** of racism

Barbie Dutter

life network Orbit said yesterday it had scrapped the BBC's Arabic Television service to the Middle East because of a "sneering and racist" Pan-

orama documentary.
The programme last week revived criticisms of human rights abuses in Saudi Arabia and showed preparations for a public execution in the kingdom. There was also an interview with a Filipina who said she had been flogged for going out for an evening with

orbit's president. Alexander B Zilo, said: "This programme was a speering and racist attack on Islamic law and culture. Orbit had to act. Clearly the BBC was not prepared to honour the letter or the spirit of its contract."

Orbit is owned by the Mawarid Group, whose chair-man is the Saudi prince Kha-lid bin 'Abd al-Rahman. He is a cousin of King Fahd and married to the King's sister. Orbit said in a statement it had been "dissatisfied" with the BBC service for some time and had made many attempts to persuade the corporation to be more sensitive.

The programme was a "tab-loid and sensationalist repregered outrage in the Islamic communities of Europe, the Middle East, and northern Africa. "The BBC's contractual agreement with Orbit requires them to take account of local sensitivities. This they did not do "the state." they did not do," the state-

ment continued.

The BBC said it was satisfied it had complied fully with all the terms of its contract "including its obligations as to editorial standards, con-tent, quality and local sensitivities".

A spokesman said the contract gave the BBC complete editorial control of the chan-nel, but added: "The BBC does not propose to discuss the legal issues surrounding the termination of the Orbit contract whilst negotiations are taking place and possible

legal proceedings are pending."

The decision to halt the £12 million a year service — with the probable loss of £50 jobs brought to a head the furore over Saudi censorship of news about the London-based dissident Mohammed al-Mas'ari. In January, it emerged that reports about a plan to deport him to Dominica were being blacked out at Orbit's satellite

relay station in Rome. He told the BBC's World at

holy marriage". The channel provided subacribers with eight hours a day of news, business and factual programmes.

Death of a service, page 9

Tories 'more rightwing than 80s'

Tony Samuelson (right) is restrained by Conservative Party helpers as he tries to intercept Virginia Bottomley in Tamworth yesterday Protocourt David Joses

Major of greater extremism than Thatcher

Rebecca Smithers and Patrick Wintour

OHN Major's govern-ment had become more rightwing and extreme than that of Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair said yesterday as he fought to win over wavering Tories on the eve of the Staffordshire South East

byelection.

His remarks came as Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, made a last-ditch attempt to persuade the same waverers back into the fold, urging them not to make their vote a protest one.

Amid continued signs of support haemorrhaging from the Conservatives, Mr Blair dismissed as "cynical" their Disturbing look at dismissed as "cynical" their attempts to limit the damage

> would be tolerable, while tion on Europe now, is proba-Labour sources believe they bly more extreme than it was could achieve a 15 per cent swing and a majority as high as 10,000. In the 1980s. There they are raising the possibility of go-ing back to the 11-plus."

In an interview, Mr Blair insisted: "The Irony of the Major years is that they have ended up even further to the right than they were in Mar-garet Thatcher's time." Tory strategists dismissed Mr Blair's remarks, but fear

Mr Blair added: "The rheto-Some Tory strategists have been privately claiming that a doing to the Health Service, Labour majority of 5,000 for example, and their posi-

that the optimistic comments of Kenneth Clarke, the Chan-cellor, during his visit last week may have raised false expectations.

the protest vote, which usually grows as a general elec-

ence in the half-empty audito-rium at Drayton Manor Park

tion approaches.

"There is nothing to gain in protesting against a party decisions", which were not al-

Leader comment, page 8

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US starts airlift from Liberia

Agencies in Monrovia

and belonging; an admission of alienation coupled with an ELICOPTERS carrying military specialists from the United States instant attraction to a roman tic Scottish past and to the kitsch posturing of pop music. Yet the piece isn't just a landed yesterday evening in Monrovia, Liberia's warring maudlin lament. It's also ver funny. The carefully posicapital, to start organising the evacuation of hundreds of tioned stoats, wild cats and various unlikely birds look foreigners who are among thousands sheltering in the US embassy compound. glassily comical and the sigh

of Sinclair singing into thin air is a great take on decades "We are pre-positioning equipment that can handle a sizeable evacuation if necesof naff Scottish programming and pap pop videos. But the impermanence of sary," William Perry, the US defence secretary, said. The United Nations has al-ready started flying out some the work, the fact that you can see how it's constructed, and the way he has superimposed the human on to the artificial

Before a full American evacother that of Charles uation, a company of US other warlord.

Hunger is the

new threat as

troops — about 130 — would secure the airport and the route from Monrovia. Then, the Pentagon has said, cargo planes could be used to take out large numbers of people. Commander Mike John, spokesman for of the 6th Fleet in Gaeta, Italy, said an evacuation could be carried out by the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit based on three am-

Mediterranean.
The fighting began after one warlord, Roosevelt Johnson, was sacked as a minister by the transitional ruling council of state. His fighters took on militias loyal to three council members, including that of Charles Taylor, an-





Roosevelt Johnson: Sacked by ruling council of state

nights, there is a small mar-ket. All the stalls have been the only goods available are being hawked by children: a tiny bag of sugar \$3 (£2), a blob of butter \$2.

choice between hunger and dysentry seems a bad one, the earch for water is even more

able is down the road, past a known encampment of fighters who let off volleys of gurfire with their AK-47s. The corpse of a young boy on the beach outside the city is a stark reminder of the risks of populations. Now the latest reminder of the risks of populations and populations are stark reminder of the risks of populations. Now the latest reminder of the risks of populations are stark reminder of the risks of populations.

House, once a mansion and except for occasional looters | then a public health clinic. | are being housed at the Amer- | 6; Letters, page 8

It was transformed into a lican compound up the road. refugee centre four years ago
— the previous time Monrovia was sacked.

It was transformed into a lican compound up the road. But with this compound also overcrowded, small refugee camps are springing up throughout the enclave.
Arthur Major, who insists that the international com-As if by instinct, dozens of young mothers have fled the

stone structure even though all medical equipment they need to help their babies was looted in 1992.

city. The women hold their babies in the air crying: "We have no food. We have no pure water."

estimate is 3,000 people, pack-Hundreds of people congregate on the steps of the peeling two-storey Mamba Point ing every day. A further 20,000 refugees

world's failure to grasp what Liberians need.

munity take note of the plight

of his people, points down the beach to another pathetic col-lection of refugees. "We are

100 there. Many children. You have to do something fast. Don't know how long we're going to be here."

A soldier from the West African peacekeeping force, (Ecomog), waves as he strolls past in combat uniform. A

woman in the street pulls me

aside and says he is not a sol-

dier, but one of the militia

members on surveillance

duty.

These are the men who hold

the lives of ordinary people in their hands now.

The sight of an American helicopter overhead is seen as

more confirmation of the

in April or May?

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Titan-bound satellite could unlock Earth's first secrets

Tim Radford

BRITISH scientists plan-ning to land a probe on Titan, the largest moon of Sat-

The probe, known as Huy-Nasa-European Space Agency | years to reach Saturn.

satellite called Cassini, which

Professor John Zarnecki, a physicist at the University of Kent in Canterbury, told the National Astronomy Meeting urn. will be working in the in Liverpool yesterday that dark — and with only min- the Huygens probe would explore one of the most mysterious objects in the solar sysgens, will be launched from a tem. Cassini will take seven

Point speak of something on their minds as threatening as sets off next year to explore the moons of Saturn.

food runs out in looted city Eyewitness

Philip van Niekerk

in Monrovia AGAINST the insistent rat-tile of gunfire, people shel-tering in Monrovia's diplo-matic enclave of Mamba

the war: hunger.
Once American belicopters airlift Westerners and diplomats, those left behind in the Liberian capital will have to forage for something to eat in a city whose shelves are bare. Nearly all the shops in the centre have been ransacked and the streets are deserted

glaring suspiciously at pass-ers-by. There is very little to be bought, and the price of what food is left is soaring. At the Black and White Entertainment Centre, where Liberians party on Friday

closed since last Saturday and A small boy carries a red plate of rotten, dried fish, swarming with flies. If the

The only fresh water avail-

stray bullets.

Charles Taylor: Strongest

fighting to this crumbling

They have come from across the bridge to Mamba Point, fleeing the even worse maybem in the rest of the

Henry Newman, an elderly grey-haired man in a suit, shakes his head. "No, we're

Plans to enforce smoke-free areas dropped, despite failure of voluntary approach



'Clearly the voluntary approach has not worked. so we must honour our pledge legislate'

 Minister James Clappison (above)



Smoking law stubbed out

Paul Brown Environment Correspondent

ings open to the public have been abandoned. even though ministers have accepted a voluntary approach has failed.

New regulations were promised last December when a detailed survey showed that no category of public buildings, even health centres, had reached govern-ment targets. The Governusers of public buildings can ment of the Environment yes | lic and introduce appropriate | lishments sampled have an | cent of pubs. The target was expect at least one area to be | terday when the long awaited | enabling legislation." | affective policy in place. A | 30 per cent compliance.

Under the current voluntary arrangements, the plans to legislate to owners of public buildings enforce smoking are requested but not required by law to provide the owners of public buildings are required by law to provide the owners of public buildings. moke-free areas. Ministers were expected to announce that legislation was

mminent in January, but the initiative was postponed when strong opposition was raised to curbs on smoking from brewers, licensed vict-uallers' and restaurant

report, which gave detailed figures on the failure of the voluntary approach, was published

Environment minister James Clappison accepted the policy was nowhere near tar-gets but said a voluntary code efforts would be made to edu-cate those who controlled public buildings.

said: "While the voluntary apthains. proach has many advantages
The Government subset the Government will, if necesabandoned any at- sary, consider statutory -

enabling legislation." On December 33 the Depart-

ment of the Environment told The Guardian: "Clearly the voluntary approach has not worked, so we must honour our pledge."

Yesterday Mr Clappison said the Government had would continue. Further changed its mind and it would continue the voluntary approach because, although targets were not being met, there had been an encourag-In 1992 the Government's there had been an encourage environment white paper ing response to the Government's efforts and the number of establishments with a smoking policy was rising. However, he conceded:

The Government figures showed that 77 per cent of education establishments had an effective smoking policy, 71 per cent of health centres, 63 per cent of shops, 48 per cent of sports and recreation

effective policy in place. A similar proportion in this sec-tor still have no policy at all

on smoking. Those who have

chosen not to be smokers should be able to expect an

area in public places which is

smoke-free. Some sectors

80 per cent compliance. Joan Ruddock, Labour's environment protection spokeswoman, said: "This is another broken promise and an example of failure to regulate in the interests of the nation's health. Members of the public have made great strides in are entitled to expect that public buildings should contain smoke-free areas in which they can conduct their business and enjoy their lei-

implementing an effective policy, and I call on others to follow their example." sure. The Government promised they would provide them. With an election in sight it is an example of the Tories giv-ing way to the vested inter-ests of their donor friends

NHS funds births by surrogacy

Chris Mihill Medical Correspondent

SECOND couple is to pregnancy on the National Health Service, it emerged yesterday, and three other families are being considered for the

The news follows publica-tion of details of what is be-lieved to be the first surro-gacy funded by the NHS, York health authority paid £5,000 for in-vitro fertilisation in a "rent a womb" pregnancy on behalf of Tracey and Colin

The pregnancy was carried by a friend, known as Marie, and resulted in the birth of The twins were born two years ago, but Mrs Wells told the Daily Mirror yesterday

she wanted to tell her story to help other infertile couples. She and her husband had undergone 12 years of unsuc-cessful infertility treatment, during which she discovered she had a rare artery malfor-mation in her womb which meant pregnancy could prove

After the offer of help from her friend, two embryos using eggs from Mrs Wells and sperm from her husand were implanted, following a decision by the ethics committee at St James's hospital, Leeds that the treatment was

Yesterday the charity COTS (Childlessness Overcome Through Surrogacy) wel-comed the Wells's decision to make their story public and said another couple was receiving similar treatment on the NHS.

This case involves the sister of a woman born without a womb. Treatment has already started on both women, to prepare the eggs from one and the womb of the other to receive them. The women approached doctors five months ago, according to COTS.

The family wishes to remain anonymous but it is understood the bill, which could be up to £10,000, is being paid by an English health authority.

COTS said at least four other couples had applied for the treatment, including the couple who had just been accepted. Another woman, whose application was being considered, had had a hysterment regards an effective tempt at compulsion. This means of protecting non-smoking policy as one where was admitted by the Depart-smoking members of the pub-food and entertainment estables and restaurants, and 14 per health of the population."

privately or are arranged in-formally between couples. COTS said it knew of 54 women going through surrogacy arrangements, and there were about 30 such

there were about 30 such pregnancies a year.

There is no national policy on surrogacy on the NHS. Health authorities can pay for the service, but it is not widely seen as a priority.

No comment was available from the North Yorkshire health authority, into which the York district authority was merged.

was merged. In February Dr John Par-sons, head of the assisted conception unit at King's College hospital, London, revealed that his unit was negotiating with an unnamed health authority to provide IVF treat-ment for a surrogate



First couple break cover

Yesterday he said he hoped more health authorities would follow York's example. He spoke of the grief that childlessness could bring. "This should be available to women who have not got a womb or have a disease which means they cannot carry a pregnancy — both of which are disastrous and involve an on-going grieving

A spokesman for the Department of Health said decisions on funding surrogate pregnancies were for local health authorities.

So far authorities are understood to have paid only for the IVF costs of surrogacy. In the private cases, some of the surrogate mothers have also been paid expenses, for time off work and other commitments, ranging from £5,000 to £10,000. Although ex-

New York fears disappear in a puff of smoke

lan Katz in New York

OU can tell the smokers in most New York res-taurants long before they have lit up — they are the ones crowded around the bar as if it were an casis in

Since the city introduced one of America's toughest tobacco bans a year ago, smokers — said to number up to a third of New York's adult population — have be come virtual pariahs in most public places. Despite widespread pre

dictions that their busine would suffer, restaurants have proved unexpectedly vigilant in applying the law which prohibits smoking in dining rooms

ARENTS saving for their children's educa-

plans could find themselves

with a shortfall because of

changes by the Inland

It has decided to revoke the

charity status of the school

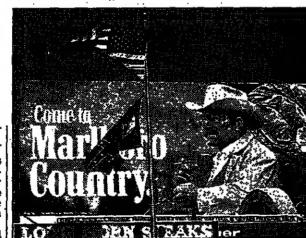
fees savings plans, which have been tax free for 40

The extra tax charged

after April next year will not

tion through school fee

Cliff Jones



Out of tune. . smoking ad in New York where the ben works

School fees savings to be taxed

cient to pay for their childer childer school fees can be dren's schooling.

Educational trusts have become a popular way of meet to light in a letter to investors

Lighting up at your table is jokingly referred to as the quickest way of getting served in a busy establishment, though patrons emfierce reproach before securing an hors d'oeuvre. The New York law, which also covers sports arenas

and most offices, imposes

come a popular way of meet-ing the rising costs of school fees, and have raised more than £500 million. The

schemes have been exempt

from tax since their introduc-

tion in the 1950s - their char-

itable status allowed fund

managers to claim a refund

for any deductions made by

with-profits endowment

monthly savings, A typical 10-

Most plans are unitised

the Inland Revenue.

provide the amount parents year policy will produce much as 30 per had believed would be suffi-

means that policies maturing | funds designed for long term

ploying this approach will usually have to endure a

fines on businesses for failing to enforce the smoking ban: \$200 (£133), \$500 (£338) and \$1,000 (£666) respectively for first, second and third offences.

A survey of 451 restaurants one month after the ban was imposed found 103 cases of the law being flouted, but almost all involved establishments fail- ing, at least in some areas.

with Sun Life Educationa

Trust plans. Chairman Geof-frey Harrison-Dees has con-demned the move as "entirely

unjustified" and says he will

The new rules will lower

the contributions made by the

trust through endowment plans and plan holders could

be forced to pay extra money to meet the shortfall caused

by the tax. Plan holders could

find the tax charges absorb as much as 30 per cent of their

ing to display "no smoking" signs while only 16 per cent involved people smoking.

A handful of restaurants, however, acquired a repu-tation for their relaxed en-

forcement of the ban and have become magnets for smokers. A number of "smokers-only" restaurants have also opened. Whether restaurateurs in

general have been helped or hindered by the ban remains in dispute. The Zagat restaurant guide concluded recently that the ban "seems to have had minimal effect on the growth of the industry. In-deed most customers appreciate the change".

But smokers' groups dissurvey of 1,000 New York restaurants, the National Smokers Alliance claims 55 per cent of respondents said they had lost money up to 35 per cent of revenue
as a result of the ban.

Restaurants can allow smoking if they have less ventilated dining area.

The increased costs will

for parents who start saving through the schemes after

April 1997. The School Fees Insurance Agency, the UK's

largest provider of such plans, will also be affected by

John Lamb, a spokesman for Sun Life Educational

prising. He said: "The Inland

Revenue has not explained

why it is taking this course of

The inland Revenue would

not comment last night and a

statement is expected later

Trust, said the move was sur

the higher running costs.

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Defence team in newsboy Carl Bridgewater case 'not informed of unidentified fingerprints on bike' | News in brief

Prosecutor urges Howard to reopen murder case because of 'trial error'

the murder of newspaper boy Carl Bridgewater has written to the Home Secretary insisting the case

should be re-opened.

Michael Chance, expressed concern to Michael Howard over a "disturbing error" in the conduct of the prosecution - the non-disclosure at the trial of two unidentified fingerprints on the frame of the murdered boy's bicycle. The approach to Mr Howard is revealed by BBC television's Rough Justice tonight.

ponsible for the prosecution of James Robinson, Patrick

cuted the four men on December 14 last year, convicted in 1979 of after Mr Howard announced that he was "not minded" to

send the case back to the Court of Appeal.

He wrote: "Carl Bridgewa-ter disturbed burglars whilst delivering a newspaper at Yew Tree Farm. They shot him before making good their escape. The boy most proba-bly left his bicycle by the farmhouse door whilst deliv-ering the paper. The cycle was subsequently recovered from a nearby pigsty. The likelihood is that one of those involved in the burglary and the murder removed it from his path whilst making off.
"The fingerprints were

fenders. In the event, the fingerprints differ from those of all four convicted men."

Though the bicycle featured prominently in the case — it was even deposited in the jury room — the unidentified prints on it were not disclosed to the defence at the trial or at the appeal in 1988.

Mr Chance concludes: "If

disclosure had been made ~ as plainly it should have been — the matter would have as-sumed some prominence in the conduct of the defence." In a reply on January 9, Tim Kirkhope, junior Home Office minister, sought to reassure Mr Chance. There were, he said, "no other un-

Molloy and the cousins Vinfound on the cycle frame. identified fingerprints" found the firm. "This gives good their trial at Stafford in 1979, water murder. A distinctive their trial at Stafford in 1979, which is identification of the ofwrote to the Home Secretary the identification of the ofintruders were gloves."

| Involved in the Carl Bridgetonight's programme. Six water murder. A distinctive weeks after the four men were convicted. Mr Spencer Wilkes drove was seen at the Mr Kirkhope argued:

There was no reason to connect marks found on Carl's bike with the crime." Mr Chance replied that he found Kirkhope's approach "very unattractive and quite inconsistent with the prose-

cution's duty".

He said the prints on the bike were checked against 3 million other sets, including those of everyone even remotely connected with Carl Bridgewater or his bike. The prints did not match those of Hubert Spencer, an early suspect, who was linked to it by a series of striking

shot dead his friend, farmer Hubert Wilkes. He was sentenced to life imprisonment, and was released last year.

On the programme, he vig-orously denies any connec-tion with the Carl Bridgewater murder. Asked why he killed Mr Wilkes, he said the farmer, who was 70, had in the past organised wife swapping parties in which he would give women "special cocktails". On the evening Mr Wilkes was shot, Mr Spencer claimed, the farmer threatened to give Mrs Spencer a

"special cocktail",
Rough Justice asks whether
the real reason for the shooting was that Mr Wilkes was

water murder. A distinctive Land Rover like the one Mr farm an hour before the mur-der. Mr Wilkes was never fingerprinted, so no one knows thether his were the prints

on the bicycle. Rough Justice sheds new light on the foundation of the ornsecution case: the confession of Pat Molloy.

On December 10, 1978, Mr Molloy signed a confession in Wombourne police station to say he had been upstairs at the farm when the murder

Mr Molloy, who died in prison in 1961, repeatedly told his lawyers, his family, and his friends that this confession had been battered out of

Man held over veteran's death

POLICE are questioning a 25-year-old man about the killing of war veteran Stefan Popovic, 74, who was dragged from his car and beaten in Leeds at the weekend.

The man was arrested early yesterday at his home on the Gipton estate in Leeds, two miles from Chapeltown where the

attack took place. Mr Popovich, a retired bus driver, suffered a fatal heart attack after being dragged along as he tried to prevent the thief from stealing his Lada car. — Martin Wainwright

Check on Street video

THE Independent Television Commission is investigating Gra-nada Television's decision to screen an episode of Coronation Street which it sold as an exclusive video release. The watchdog received more than 70 complaints from viewers

who believed they had been duped into buying the £12.99 video featuring Raquel and Curly's honeymoon cruise on the QE2, which was released for the Christmas market.

The video, which sold 750,000 copies and netted more than £10 million, was marketed with an "only on video" sticker — but last month a 60-minute version of the 75-minute video was screened on ITV and watched by 16 million. — Andrew Culf

Farmer's 'cannabis crop'

A POLICE raid on a farmhouse found around 1,000 cannabis slauts growing in specially adapted sheds, Bristol crown court

The plants varied from a few inches to up to four feet and were being cultivated with the aid of special lighting and watering

systems. They could have yielded up to \$75,000 worth of illegal cannabis, said William Hart, prosecuting. Before the court was farmer John Lucksted, 50, who manage Rookery Farm at Chewton Mendip, Somerset, on the estate of the Earl of Waldegrave — older brother of Treasury Secretary, William Waldegrave, MP for Bristol West.

The court heard that Lucksted admitted possessing the plants

but claimed they were solely for his own use. He denies pos the plants with intent to supply to others.

Nurses fight rapist's return

THE Royal College of Nursing is to seek a judicial review of the decision by the nursing regulatory body, the UKCC, to allow a convicted rapist, Yuan How Choy, to return to nursing. The decision, in March, sparked an outery amongst nursing unions and yesterday the RCN said it was seeking a judicial review because it believed it was against the public interest for

Choy to be readmitted to the nursing register.

Choy has two convictions for serious sexual offences involving the deception of vulnerable women patients. — Chris Mihill

Ski victim's family see body

THE family of a British skier who tumbled nearly 900 feet to her leath arrived in the French resort of La Grave yesterday to identify her body.

Nottingham-born Ceiwen Faulkner, 32, who lived in London. was skiing off-pisis at 6,800ft when she slipped as a guide was taking her, her busband and three other skiers, down a treacher-ous mountain path in the Melje region of the Alps near La Grave.

Children's nurse sacked

A MALE nurse has been sacked from Sirmingham Children's Hospital for mistreating a beby girl suffering from Down's Syndrome and a hole in the heart. He was said to have shaken Hannah Clarke, whose parents Andrew and Elaine say they will ue the hospital. The couple claim they only found out what had happened two days later. Hannah, now aged eight months, was taken to the city hospital after developing a serious bronchial condition last November. It is alleged the nurse shook Hannah within minutes of her parents leaving the hospital.

Dunblane gym demolished

WORK will start today on demolishing the Dumblane school gym

work, will start today on demonstring the fundance school gym where 16 children and their teacher were massacred by gunman Thomas Hamilton, who then killed himself.

Parents of the children, most of whom were five years old, had the final say in deciding the gym should be pulled down, said a

spokesman for Stirling council.
The work will take two days or more, and will be completed. well before the children of Dunblane primary school return on

donday from their Easter holiday. The gym will be replaced for the time being by a garden of spring flowers, pending a longer-term decision on its replace-

The Dumblane inquiry chaired by Scottish judge Lord Cullen will hold a preliminary hearing in Stirling on May 1, it was announced yesterday.

Correction

IN OUR story "Family to go for judicial review over 'baton death' " we wrongly referred to Brian Douglas, the man who died in police custody, as having been confronted by police investigating a burglary. Mr Douglas had, in fact, been taken to Vauxhall police station after being arrested on suspicion of being under the influence of drugs and drink.

We also wish to make it clear that there were no riots after protests about Mr Douglas's death. These in fact followed the death of another man in Brixton. Wayne Douglas.



Walk on the wild side . . . Rambling in the countryside is increasingly popular. But in towns, where roads get priority, walkers face an uphill task, says the Pedastrian Policy Group

Walking is now | taking a back seat to car use, even on short journeys, say campaigners

BRITAIN is becoming a nation of lazybones with people preferring to drive to the corner shop rather than walk, accord-

claims that walking is in Transport 2000, the Pedes-decline and the average distance walked in the past 20 years has fallen by 20 per cent — more than 16 per cent of the fall happening If current trends con-

in the past three years. A coalition called the Pa- from the car to the front. The report urges mea-destrian Policy Group door, says the report from sures to encourage more

peace and the cycling group Sustrans.

The groups complain of an increased Americanisa-tion in UK cities. In the US fewer than one in 12 trips is tinue, by 2050 the only leg on foot, compared to one in power we will use will be three in Britain.

tion said there was still a strong demand for recre ational walking. ernment policy on walking, action by local councils to improve pedestrian routes "But it is mostly done in the countryside on week-ends or during holidays. It is still a worry that walking and safe routes to encour age children to walk to school.

Report author Lynn Sloman said that community spirit would decline and public fear of crime would increase in a society where people increasingly depended on cars. "What we need is a policy for a pedes-trian-friendly environ-ment. At the moment transport and roads take priority, walking doesn't even get a look in."

The Ramblers' Associa-

somewhere in a hurry. Globe-trotting walker Ffyona Campbell admitted: "It is difficult to give up a car for something which not only takes time, but can cause discomfor?"

Brittan calms Tory ERM fears

Sanctions on monetary policy would require British approval'

Patrick Wintour, Chief

HE European Commission yesterday moved rapidly to reassure Tory surosceptics that it would not back any sanctions to enforce monetary co-ordination between countries that go into the European single currency and those that stay outside. Politicians in France and

Germany, as well as some Bel-gians, have been pushing for a clear policy of sanctions against European Union member states outside the single currency that follow policies of competitive devaluation

devaluation.

They also want powers to monitor the monetary policies of states outside the single currency, the "euro".

Sir Leon Brittan, the commission's vice president, said yesterday that it was not backing such sanctions, and predicted they would never be agreed since the decision would require unaminity from the Council of Ministers, which meant getting British

support.

He said: "Everybody is agreed that there is an interest in monetary and exchange rate stability. The only question is how you get that."

He pointed out that the governor of the Bank of England, Sir Eddia George had evid all

Sir Eddie George, had said all member countries, whether in or out of the European single currency, had a collec-tive interest in ensuring they all pursued policies for mone-tary and exchange rate stability. He added that there could be greater co-ordination be-tween all member states. Sir Leon went on: "Britain

her partners in the system not being de-stabilised, be-cause, if it were, that would harm Britain as much as it would harm anybody else. "The question is how you chould an about it. The track-

is less pleasant and more dangerous in towns," said

Walking is however

luxury many people feel they cannot afford to in-dulge in when trying to get

spokesman George Hill.

should go about it. The treaty implies that there should be some kind of arrangement be-tween the countries who are not in and the countries that

"But that is a very far cry from saying there has to be a new old-style ERM and there's no question of that being compulsory," he said, adding the British Govern-ment had said it was opposed

to competitive devaluation.

"Everybody is agreed that
the relationship of the exchange rates of the countries in and out is a matter of importance, that there should be discussion, surveillance, and

"The only question is what form it should take," he told BBC Radio 4's World At One. Sir Leon did not deny that some member states likely to from the outset wanted some powers over the monetary policies of those outside, but he said: "There is no proposa in favour of sanctions of any kind on the table at the moment, and it is extremely un-likely that such a proposals nkery that such a proposals could possibly be agreed, be-cause there is no justification for it and because it would require unamity to agree it."
He was speaking after the Tory Eurosceptic MP Nicholas Budgen warned: "The

there was an attempt to rejoin the ERM. Mr Clarke should just politely say 'no'."

EU finance ministers, including the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, are due to meet in Verset in Verset in the Chance in the control of t

in Verona in Italy on Friday to discuss how to link the proposed single currency with the currencies of member states which do not join.

Sir Leon said the Verona meeting would make no decisions, just hold an informal

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By putting different numbers of elastic bands around identical sized tins, a blind person will be able to quickly distinguish their contents. For example, three bands for soup, two for baked beans and one for cat food.

It's a simple solution to an everyday problem. But how does a blind person know where to find cat food in the supermarket? Or which cereals are the cheapest? The Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) offers advice on tactile information, lighting, layout and staff training, to help supermarkets meet the needs of their visually impaired customers. RNIB also

encourages the stores to provide staff to read out prices and give directions. RNIB's work is especially important if you consider many visually impaired people live alone. For more details about RNIB call 0345 023040.

RNIB challenging blindness

Royal National Institute for the Blind

Charity Registration Number 22:227

Beleaguered

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Blair backs election of mayors

Patrick Wintour, Chief

ABOUR will today move towards advocating a directly elected mayor for London with strategic powers as a high profile advocate for the capital both in Whitehall and

in Europe.

The Labour leader, Tony Blair, believes elected mayors could act as a countervailing force against the strong trend towards centralisation.

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ganolished

In a consultative paper to be unveiled today by the shadow environment secre-tary, Frank Dobson, Labour elected strategic "light touch" authority for London and drop its long-standing com-mitment to abolish the local government powers of the Corporation of London, but on the condition that it adopts

democratic procedures.
The document may herald similar proposals for mayors

similar proposals for mayors in other big cities.

Mr Blair believes elected mayors could help revive civic pride, increase executive efficiency and breathenew life into local government to will appropriate the suppose. ment. He will express his sup-port for a mayor when he sses the Architectural Foundation conference on London's future next week.

Elected mayors have long been important figures in most United States and European cities, but the British local government tradition has been for the civic leader to be indirectly elected by

Critics of the system, in-cluding some on the Labour front bench, claim elected mayors will add an extra tier of bureaucracy and conflict with the democratic powers

High profile council lead-ers, such as the former leader of the Greater London Council, Ken Livingstone, did not need the authority of a may-or's title to have an impact,

The consultative paper to be issued today will advance an elected Mayor as one op-tion, but the open support for the concept from Mr Blair in-dicates it is likely to become

Labour policy.

A Labour source said the precise powers of the mayor could not yet be spelt out, but would include strategic powers, a budget and staff.

If the party proceeds with the idea the party proceeds

Running out of water

74.0

72.8

55.3

3,400

90.0

93.0

42.4

6,296

G 721

a.12 🍪

which normally records the highest rainfall in the country, had only 36 percent of normal in March and in April it is so far only 6 percent. Some reservoirs, such as Ennerdale, are at their lowest levels in

said: "If it does not rain and rain hard for some

will be helped by new boreholes and a new pipeline link to Rutland Water. This will

produce an extra 100 million litres a day.

last year faced the worst drought for more than a century. It is investing 2100 million in

Severn Trent

more than 100kms of

South West

problems come from its

Road(ord reservoir, which is only 35 per cent full. It is currently trying to fill it up using artificial means and

draining new rivers. But a

likely we may have to

extend the area where

there are hose pipe

restrictions around

Roadford.

Source: Water Services Association, Wessex Water

Water's

pipeline, pumping stations and treatment works to be completed by May.

Parts of the area supplied by Yorkshire Water

the idea, the new strategic authe idea, the new strategic authority, in part restoring the old democratic role of the GLC abolished by the Government in 1986, would be more than a body to monitor the work of the mayor and his staff, but would have independent functions. The strategic dent functions. The strategic authority, predominantly responsible for economic development and transport, is likely to be elected on the same day as the mayor, in order to reduce the chances of a political split between the civic head and the strategic authority. Labour believes elected strategic authority has been made and is highly

In its last major statement on its policies for London, "A World Class Capital", in 1991, Labour made no reference to the possibility of an elected mayor, but the party's deci-sion to abandon plans to abolish the Corporation of London as the local governing body for the City follows in-tense lobbying by the Corpo-ration. The paper says: "The Corporation's present electoral arrangements cannot be defended and must be

popular in London.



New pipes being laid by Yorkshire Water in an attempt to beat another summer of drought. Reservoirs remain exceptionally low - PHOTOGRAPHS DON MUPHER

74.0

3,591

88.0

braces for new summer drought with an apology - and rules out use of tankers and standpipes

Parched Yorkshire Water comes clean

Martin Wainwright

HE word "sorry" is kicking off Yorkshire Water's preparations for this summer's expected drought in a blitz of newspaper, radio and TV advertisements launched

Company director Tracey Flanders precedes her pub-lic appeal for prudence with a direct apology for the problems and confusion of last year, in the county of grime-streaked cars and brown-leafed garden

The approach follows the immediate reverse of Yorkshire's previous stance — an unrepentent statement of its virtues - by the firm's new managing direc-tor Kevin Bond. The former police superintendent took office last week and began by saying: "The first thing I have to do on behalf of this company is to say sorry to the public."

The second job facing Dr Bond, who was previously regional director of the National Rivers Authority (NRA), is to stand up York-shire's unqualified confidence that desperate measures will not be needed this summer and autumn. The firm remained definite yesterday — "No tankers, no standpipes" — despite alarming statistics from which almost ran dry last | mental groups and Dr

August.
"Normally, they would be full or just about full at this ago. But we've had excep-tionally dry weather con-tinuing from last year, and we're now at the stage where the winter rains start disappearing and we enter the dry summer

Last year's problems began in July, and the dry-spots of Kirklees, Calderdale and Bradford are in a much worse position to start the 1996 dry season. Kirklees reservoirs, including Scammonden dam, are only 40 per cent full. Cal-derdale was on 52.9 per cent yesterday morning and Bradford is 58.7 per cent — closest to the regional average of just be-low 60 per cent. Yorkshire Water is sure, however.

that its £100 million new pipelines and pumping stations will guarantee supplies, backed by hosepipe and car wash bans which celebrate their first anniversary in July and August. The spokesman said: "We are confident that we can maintain supply through another dry summer. following an unusually dry

> The emergency system however, from environ-

Bond's former team at the NRA, if it drinks too deeply from Yorkshire's rivers. stage of the year," said a Controversy also sur-company spokesman. "As rounds the county's fa-they were, in fact, a year voured long-term option, the piping of water from Northumberland's vast Kielder reservoir. The dam holds 10,000 times as much supply as Yorkshire's largest reservoir. Grimwith, and is seen as a better longterm solution than trying to find an uncontroversial local valley to flood. But the estimated £97 million cost and length of time required for a direct pipe line have tilted the firm towards using the rivers Swale and Wiske as

conduits. "That would lead to a battle royal," said Peter Bowler of the consumer group Water Watch. "Be cause of the dangers to wildlife in the rivers."

Kielder's much colder water would pose risks to the ecology of both Yorkshire rivers, known for

their rich biodiversity. Work continues on repairs and improvement to Yorkshire Water's three large reservoirs at Wal-shaw Dean in the mid-Pennines, which bankrupted their Edwardian builder Enoch Tempest as soon as they were opened, by giving an early start to the will face continuing flak, region's sad reputation for

New EU battle to end beef ban

Owen Bowcott

UROPEAN Union officials will today face the Agriculture Minister, Under the dec Douglas Hogg, to relax emergency measures imposed on the export of British beef

A week after the United Kingdom delegation failed to convince Brussels to lift the restrictions, the commission will review its response to suggestions that BSE in cattle has caused the brain degenerating disease CJD in humans.

Experts will re-examine the full list of products covered by the ban - including sweets, confectionery, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals — to see if those using certain beef by-products need no longer be banned. EU officials insisted yester-

day there was no question of lifting all the restrictions im-mediately and certainly not before Mr Hogg has submitted more detailed plans for a selective slaughter policy. The EU's Scientific Veteri-

nary Committee consists of each member country's veterinary officers. One of the main debates will be over gelcarcases widely used in confectioners'.

An European Commission official said yesterday: "When this crisis began we decided on an all-inclusive ban as a precaution. Now that some stability has returned to the market it is time to look at it

Since last week's declaratement crisis over beef caused tion, the World Health him to rethink his business.

Organisation has said gela-tine does not pose a risk to human health, increasing pressure from Britain on member states to relax as-

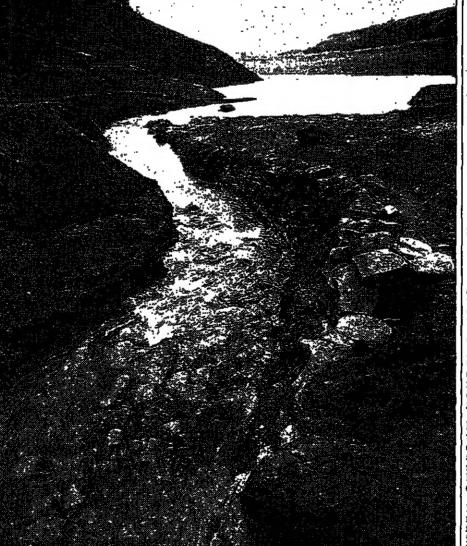
Under the declaration, the Government committed itself to destroy an estimated 4.68 million of higher-risk older cows at the end of their working lives to bar them from the food chain. The UK has also agreed to accept EU-wide rules on the processing and heat-treating of carcases used for animal feed and non-food products.
Brussels, meanwhile, is

propping up market prices by buying 50,000 tonnes of beef this month in the wake of the budget will also bail out farm-ers hit by the "kill and burn" policy. Brussels will contribute 70 per cent of the cost of compensating farmers whose animals are slaughtered and destroyed.

The Meat and Livestock Commission yesterday called for an independent watchdog to monitor British food pro-duction to prevent similar

 A slaughterman is exploiting the BSE scare by today opening what he claims is Britain's first butcher shop

Cheval Butchers, Smethwick. West Midlands, is the brainchild of Bob Walker, aged 47, who has spent 30 years in the horse slaughter trade. His previous work included shooting injured horses before preparing them for the pet trade but the



Water trickles into the Yorkshire supply. The emergency system will face continuing flak from environmental groups and the NRA if it drinks too deeply from rivers

Manchester yearns for rain as joke wears thin

Crisis looms in the North West as drought shows no sign of ending, writes David Ward

that Manchester, a byword for dampness, had be-come one of the driest cities

But the crisis continues. This is the severest drought in living memory," Harry Croft, North West Water's operations director, said in Feb-ruary. The weather experts claimed it was the worst in

200 years. In 10 months of drought, Manchester had less rain than Madrid, Rome or Athens. While Malta had endured almost 1% times its average rainfall, Manchester had only half the rain it usually

Hopes rose at the end of February when figures revealed above-average rainfall. But the showers stopped in March and levels dropped below average again. There has been next to no rain so far in April and the region per needs twice its average rain-

With Dell, things just get better and better. For a limited period only, we're offering our Dimension"

HHE world laughed when fall if water supplies are to North West Water an-nounced two months Hosepipe bans remain in Hosepipe bans remain in force (except in Cumbria) and owners of swimming pools and extravagant sprinklers have been asked to register

with the water company in a move that could lead to the installation of meters. Reservoirs are two-thirds full on average — but the fig-ure conceals wide variations. Those in the traditionally soggy Lake District are 77 per cent full (99 per cent this time last year). But the reservoirs on the western flanks of the

Pennines are only 44 per cent full — the Longdendale series

above Glossop is barely half full and the figure for Oldham is a frightening 19 per cent. (It slumped to 6 per cent in February.)
Demand is running at 2,301

tomers' minds if this dry weather continues," a spokes-

The company accepts that it issess about 35 per cent of its water through leaks and has ust introduced a leak-line freephone number on which the public can report leaks on private or public land. "The sconer we find about leaks, the quicker we can deal with them," the spokeswoman

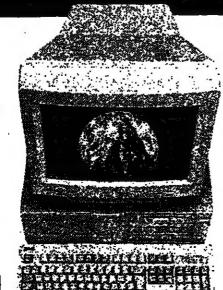
The company has run foul of the National Rivers Authority and the water watch-dog Ofwat. Last summer the NRA criticised NWW for not doing enough to protect the environment by failing to call on additional available supplies and introducing the hosepipe ban too late. It was also concerned about the high leakage rate but has wel-comed NWW's attempts to cut demand and its contingency plans for a possible dry

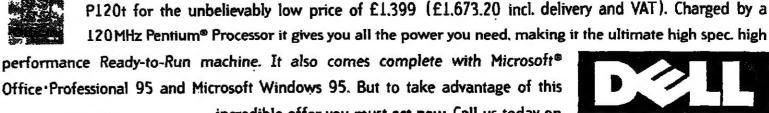
Anthony Goldstone, chairmillion litres a day and the man of the customer services water company is trying to committee of North-west Ofwat, criticised NWW for "liv-"We will be trying to keep ing on a wing and a prayer. conservation of water suphoping things would get plies at the front of our cushbetter".

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into north Iraq again

Turks drive Liberation party faces collapse

Chris Nuttall in Ankara

HE worst fighting for a year between the Turkish army and guerrillas was raging yester day 10,000 feet up in the snow eastern Turkey, with the army closing in on the rebels. Helicopters rocketed sus-pected guerrilla positions. agency quoted General Erol Ozkasnak as saying.

Special teams and commandos had carried out cross-bor-der raids on PKK bases in

northern Iraq.
Thirty soldiers and around 100 members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) have been killed in five days of clashes, the authorities said. They are the heaviest casualties sustained by either side since the six-week incursion by 35,000 troops into northern lraq launched last March to

the operation would continue

He said it had been prompted by intelligence were gathering in a moun-tainous triangle covering Bingol, Diyarbakir and Tunceli provinces and planned to end their four-month-old unilat-

It was declared by the PKK the first time. Kurdish minority. But succes sive governments have said they will not negotiate with what they see as a terrorist organisation.

About 5,000 troops are taking part in the operation, to surround the estimated 300

Most of the soldiers were Most of the soldiers were declare curfews. killed in the first clashes with Four Turkish diplomats the reportedly well-prepared

The chief of the Turkish neral staff, Ismail Hakki Karadayi, said the troops were fighting in snow up to oft deep. There had been bit-ter night-time hand-to-hand

"An effective blow has been

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

SRAELI leaders hinted ves-

close to suspending, if not abandoning, a 1993 under-

standing with the Islamist

guerrilla group in Lebanon. Hizbullah, banning attacks on

Israeli forces in occupied

south Lebanon are expected to attack Hizbullah targets

after tonight's end of the Pass-

The prime minister, Shi-

mon Peres, said he would not

be pushed into a hasty res-

ponse to the Hizbullah rocket

salvoes which slammed into

the Kiryat Shmona and west-

ern Galilee areas of northern

Israel yesterday, wounding 13

But he told reporters at the

deliberation was not the same

as restraint. He said: "I promise you this is not restraint and it is not fear and

not elections. It is cold consid-

Mr Peres, whose Labour-led

coalition is narrowly ahead in the opinion polls, faces a gen-

eration completely.

civilian targets.

in jeopardy

Lebanon accord

told reporters. "The operation is going well." Gen Ozkasnak, one of his deputies, said the Seventh Army Corps had the

initiative. Turkish army and Kurdish separatist llas was raging yesterand ammunition captured.
There was no independent

corroboration of the authorities' version of events. Move-ment of journalists is tightly controlled in the 11 provinces "They have no way out. We are waiting for them to surrender," the Anatolian news agency quoted General Erol of the south-east governed by emergency regulations and the fighting is taking place in a remote area. Pictures of the operation on state-run television were confined to troops struggling through the snow on barren mountain slopes.

The operation appears to be the start of a long-awaited spring offensive against the PKK. The military claims the ceasefire was used by the guerrillas to bring in supplies before they struck other

targets, Mr Ocalan warned recently that the PKK would launch attacks which would damage the tourist industry this sumdestroy PKK bases there.

The prime minister, Mesut
Yilmaz, said yesterday that

Mr Yilmaz, who took office in March, made a symbolic visit to the south-east three weeks ago for the Kurdish New Year celebrations. He promised that emergency rule would not be renewed by parllament in three months' time and the Kurdish language could be used in schools for

The pledges are an attemp that a new government could to marginalise the PKK. But open a dialogue with the the minority coalition government may have difficulty fulfilling them, faced with strong nationalist opposition

in parliament.
A law being drafted to replace emergency rule gives equally sweeping powers for individual provincial governors to call in the army and

have been arrested for spying in western Iran, an Iranian security official said yester-day. The arrests follow the signing of an accord between Turkey and Israel for co-oper-Ankara has assured Tehran that Turkish bases and air

rocket attacks. He said: "Hiz

bullah cannot continue to hit

"And the residents in south

responsibility of Hizbullah

will be hit harder, and the Hizbullah will be hit harder, and we will find the way to

act correctly and quickly."

As the people of Galilee
headed for bomb shelters for

a second successive night

there was little talk in Israel

of the incident which sparked

Kiryat Shmona, nor Galilee.

The once-strong PAC is close to collapse, David Beresford in Johannesburg reports

Africanist Congress, is in a state of near collapse after allegations that millions of rands have gone missing from party coffers.

The militant organisation, which a few years ago was seen as a threat to the African National Congress because of its populist appeal to the frus-trated masses, held a shambolic annual conference in the Free State capital, Bloemfonein, over the Easter weekend. After the finance secretary. Siphiwe Cele, had failed to account for R4 million (2567,000)

OUTH AFRICA'S 1994 general election cam-"second" liberation paign, delegates voted to set movement, the Pangate charges of fraud and

Mr Cele disclosed that a from a Dutch aid group had been used "in violation of conditions" to keep party of-fices going. He said he had been unable to reconcile the accounts because relevant documents were shut away in a branch office which had been closed by a legal dispute. Disgruntled delegates from the youth league tried to stage a coup, moving a motion of no confidence in the president,



a motion of no confidence

leadership. The move was staved off by a decision to hold a conference of "all Africanists" later this year to de-bate the movement's future. It has been tentatively sched-uled for June 16, the anniver-

since it was forced into exile after being banned in 1960. The organisation was riven by internal feuding — at one stage a meeting of its executive ended in a knife fight.

It seemed set for a renaissance when it was un-banned along with the ANC and the South African Communist Party in 1990. Political commentators warned that it might ride to power on a "cri-sis of expectations" if the ANC falled to deliver in the

wake of majority rule. But hopes of a revival were compromised by shows of militancy which seemed to righten off an essentially con-servative black community. In the run-up to the elec-tions the PAC was implicated in such horrific acts of violence as the St James church massacre, when gunmen

The PAC has been in chaos | racial congregation. It polled | eration movement to a politi-ince it was forced into exile | a pitiful 1.8 per cent in the | cal party has been very slow.

general election. five MPs in the national as-sembly, one of whom, Patricia de Lille, may hold out a last hope for the party's survival Ms De Lille, aged 45, a for-mer trade unionist who shot to prominence as a negotiator during the constitutional negotiations, is punted as the most likely successor when, as now seems imminent, Mr

Makwetu finally bows out. "I will serve the PAC in any position," she said yesterday. You don't just leave a sink-

Ms De Lille described the June conference as "the last chance to try and salvage whatever is left", and said the terms with the changed politi-cal landscape in South Africa.

Some belated adjustment did come out of the weekend conference. Delegates voted to abandon the controversial party slogan "one settler, one bullet" on the grounds that the PAC's ceasefire declaration in January 1994 meant it was no longer "relevant" • Lawyers representing families of some of the most prominent victims of apartheld-era atrocities, including Steve Biko, launched an urgent application to the consti-tutional court yesterday to halt the proceedings of the

The families say the commission's power to grant am-nesty breaches their constitutional right to redress. The



Manhunt . . . Algerian troops search the area around Medea for seven French Trappist monks, kidnapped on March 28 by suspected Muslim militants

A land shackled by war and factionalism

Victoria Brittain examines the backdrop
to six years of civil conflict in Liberia

Liberia. The force of 12,000 men, known as Roomog, was led by Nigeria and Ghana, with troops from The Gambia, Guines and Sierra Leone.

the latest tit-for-tat long-range attacks. On Monday, a bomb exploded by the side of a road in Braachit, Lebanon, north of the Israeli occupation zone. It killed a youth of 17 and wounded three other civilians, at least one of them a young child. The Israeli army denied Master-Sergeant Doe, an being involved, but ordered civilians into their shelters in

Katyusha rockets duly came to Galilee, causing extensive damage in Kiryat Shmona, close to the Lebanese border. After the attack, residents burned tyres and anti-Peres for an immediate military response to the rocket

eral election on May 29, in which security is the domibarrage. Within hours Israeli warcommander, Major-General planes were pounding suspected guerrilla positions north of the occupation zone. No casualties were reported. nant issue.
The northern area army

HE Liberian civil war started in December 1989 with a uprising against President Samuel Doe by Charles Taylor, a descenslaves who have been the posince its foundation in 1847.

whater-sergeant Doe, and the think Krahn from Liberia, had himself taken power in 1980 in a coup in which President William Tolbert, from the "American" ruling class. was publicly executed. In his decade of power the illiterate Doe became a by-word for senseless brutality gainst the former rulers and the educated elite. At the same time Liberia received substantial aid from the United States

Doe, under the influence of his US advisers, visited Israel when most African states shumed it in solidarity with the Arab boycott, and he received Israeli aid and security advisers. He was also a close ally of the conservative Nigerian military regime at a time when West Africa was politically polarised by left-wing military coups in Ghana and what was then Upper Volta, now Burkina Faso.

After Doe's death in 1991, his well-supplied army fractured into anarchy. Mr Taylor, whose military group was built up in neighbouring Sierra Leone and whose arms

supplies came via the Ivory Coast, saw himself as the country's natural leader. To stop the civil war - but also to prevent Mr Taylor from winning it and taking power — a West African peacekeeping force entered

Mr Taylor and his troops were pushed inland and the country split into sections controlled by various faction eaders. The economy and administration collapsed, tens of thousands of civilians were killed and a third of the population fled abroad.

A civilian government in the capital Monrovia was be-reft of all power, and seemingly of ideas on how to stop the fighting. Negotiations were left to the Nigerian and Ghanaian leaders.

The peace accord signed in Abuja last August was the eleventh, but the first to stand real chance of success. For the first time Mr Taylor, the strongest of the warlords, was given the recognition he de-manded of the Nigerians, whose peacekeeping troops have been the determining factor in Liberia for six years. Liberation Movemes In a world of shifting alleria for Democracy).



giances and ever-splitting factions, the main military groups now are Mr Taylor's beria (NPFL); the Liberian Peace Council of George Boley; the Armed Forces of Libe-ria, who are the rump of the Doe army; and the two branches of Ulimo (United Liberation Movement of Libe

The leader of one Ulimo branch is Alhaji Kromah, whose backing comes from the Muslim Mandingos. The leader of the other, which is sometimes known as Ulimo-j. but also as Ulimo-k (referring to his Krahn ethnic group) is Rooseveldt Johnson - the present cause of the fighting.
The Abuja accord depended
on the disarmament of the

factions under Ecomog supervision, but the international community has been slow to give Nigeria and Ghana the means to carry it out. Mr Johnson's Ulimo

Mr Johnson's Ulimo recently began killing civil-ians and Ecomog troops. It was a defiance of Abuja and the new council of state, composed of the other main fac-tion leaders, which was created under the accord as a transition to elections later this year. Without Mr Johnson's arrest and the disarmament of the other factions, the 11th peace agreement the way of the others.

Letters, page 8

EU's man in Mostar quits

lan Traynor in Bonn

ERMAN policy towards Croatia and the regime of President Franjo Tudjman has come under strong attack from a German official who has just quit after almost two years trying to reintegrate Mostar, the parti-tioned capital of Bosnia-

Hans Koschnick, aged 67. the former mayor of the north German city of Bremen. returned home at the weekend after throwing in the towel because of lack of support from his own govern-ment and the wider international community for key aspects of his scheme to reunite the city.

Mostar was a focal point of the Muslim-Croat war of 1993, when Croatian forces kicked virtually all the Muslims out of the western half at gunpoint and then laid siege to the eastern half for 10

In February when Mr Koschnick, as European Union administrator for the plan, a Croatian lynch mob sabotaged it by savagely attacking him and his team. As far as Mr Koschnick and his officials are concerned, the riot was politically sponatian mayor of west Mostar. Mijo Brajkovic, an official of Mr Tudiman's HDZ party.

Croatian nationalists sup-ported by Mr Tudiman have long claimed Mostar as the capital of a Croatian mini-

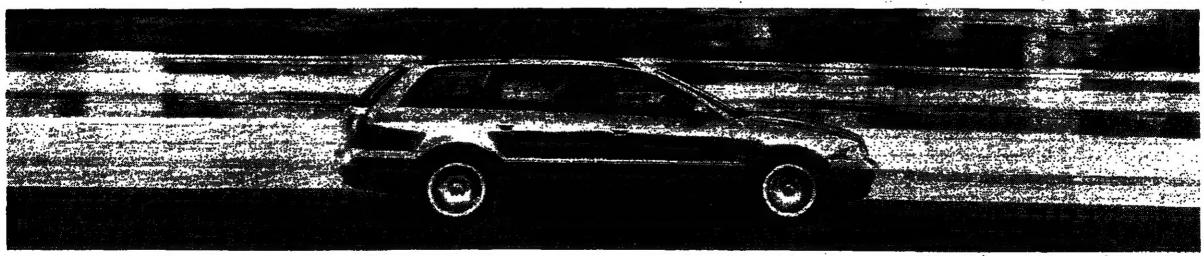
Mr Koschnick said he was being pressed by Bonn and the EU to continue co-operating with Mr Brajkovic and the Croatian police chief. "That wasn't on, so it is better they find someone else . . I'm not going to be made into a

stooge." Earlier, Mr Koschnick said that if Germany and the EU had supported him, they would have had to have confronted Mr Tudjman.

Following the February attack, senior Croatian officials said the aim was to get rid of Mr Koschnick, an object that has now been accomplished.

Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, visited Mos-tar after the attack and effectively deserted Mr Koschnick by agreeing to Croatian de-mands for the the reintegration plan to be renegotiated. Inalso failed to support the Ger-man administrator. He said

this was the last straw.



The new Audi A4 Avant. Drive one, and you'll never drive an estate.

Deputies call for immediate withdrawal from Tibet

Sino-French talks to end stand-off

Paul Webster in Paris

ECRECY and controversy surround the visit by China's prime minister, Li Peng, who arrived in Paris last night for three days of talks that will irritate some of France's allies.

The Chinese purchase of 33 Airbuses worth \$1.75 billion (£1.1 billion) hangs on Presi-dent Jacques Chirac's readiness to overlook China's human rights violations and end a diplomatic chill insti-tuted by his predecessor, François Mitterrand, after the 1989 student massacre.

Mr Chirac sent an indirect message to Beijing while in Cairo this weekend saying that France recognised that humanitarian values could be expressed differently by other countries. Later, Mr Li told French television that China would not accept interference in its internal affairs, while adding that links with France had improved since Mr Chirsc was elected in May.

But this will not stop popular reaction here, including a demonstration in Political.

demonstration in Paris today. Mr Li has been forced to drop visits to Holland and Luxem bourg and agree to a cut in trips to French regions beof fears for his safety.

ternal repression and the oc-cupation of Tibet. More than 200 French deputies called on Beiting yesterday to pull out of Tibet and said the United Nations should take up the issue. They accused China of heing personnible for 15 and being responsible for 1.5 mil-lion deaths since it occupied Tibet in 1950 and said it must immediately suspend popula-

tion transfers.
Britain and the United States will be among countries wor-ried whether Mr Chirac's indulgence will reinforce China's

aggressive attitude towards
Hong Kong and Taiwan.
Official talks will centre on
commercial projects after a
visit to Beijing by French
businessmen representing ne businessmen representing na-tionalised and private compa-nies. Mr Li will discuss joint development of a Chinese-North Korean airliner and po-tential contracts for steel making, electricity produc-tion and locomotives.

But there was no indication whether he would try to force a curtailment of French arms contracts with Taiwan. These cover the purchase of 60 Mirage 2000 fighter-bombers and

Mr Chirac will go a long way to renewing the special

still secret last night, but he is certain to meet Mr Chirac and the prime minister. Alain duppé.

Protests will centre on internal repression and the occupation of Tibet More than

It will be Mr Chirac' second traditional Gaullist move in a few days, after his visit to Lebanon and Egypt, where he called for the res ration of preferential French links with Arab states. His five-day visit to the Middle East was well-

Middle East was wellreceived by most of the Arab
press, which compared his
offer of closer relations to
what the Egyptian newspaper
Al Akhbar described as the
United States preference for
"gunboat diplomacy and war
fleets" The Syrian governmen

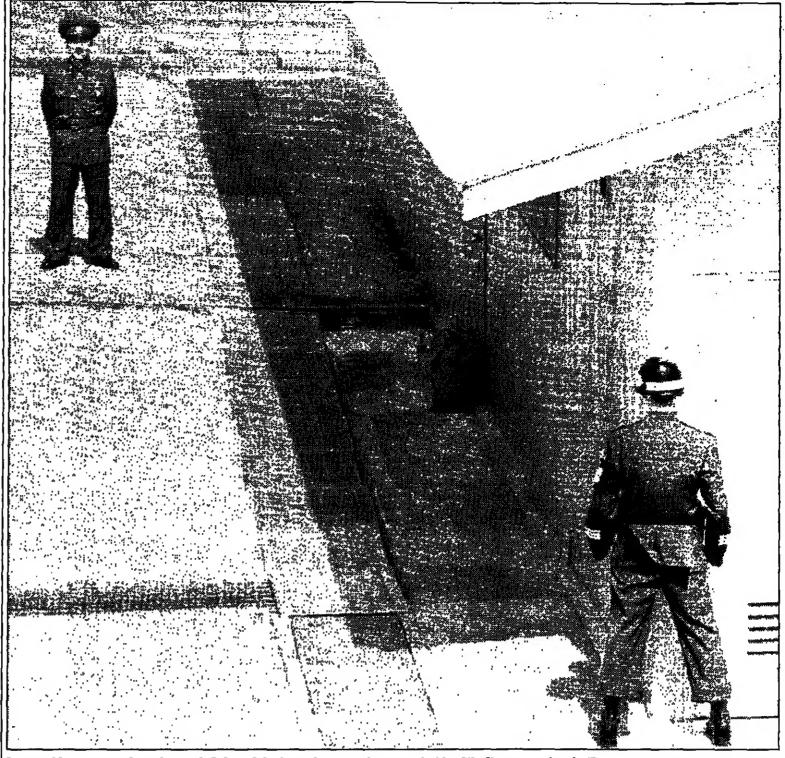
rael to withdraw from Lebanon it ignored his support for a "free and sovereign" Leha-non and his implicit backing for the recall of 35,000 Syrian occupation troops.

• China has formally ended

the 15-year prison term of the democracy activist Xu Wenli, but barred him from meeting foreigners and publishing his writings, his wife said

yesterday.

Mr Xu, a member of the
1979 Democracy Wall movement, was detained in April



Iwo worlds . . . Troops from the North (left) and the South face one other on each side of the line separating the Koreas

Vietnam paints over 'social evils' of the free market

Communist rulers fear a conspiracy by the West to impose capitalism peacefully, Seth Mydans in Ho Chi Minh City reports

N DA NANG, the fa-voured colour seems to be electric blue. Here, in the consequences are beginning city still popularly known as Saigon, it is mostly white. On shop fronts and bill-boards all over the country. the brand names of foreign consumer goods have been neatly painted out, by gov-

Even as Vietnam hustles for foreign investment, it one of the most visible indicators of its success. In a two-month campaign against "social evils". foreign advertising has been demonised, along with prostitution, gambling and illicit drugs.

The apparent contradic-tion is the product of a watershed for Vietnamese leaders who are engaged in a far-reaching debate to assess the economic and social transformation they themselves unleashed.

Their experiment in economic liberalisation called doi moi — is succeed-ing in textbook style, but the accompanying anruly market forces and social changes threaten the Communist Party's dominance. A party congress in June is expected to take a hard look at the emerging Vietnam. Analysts say a struggle has already begun over the future direction of

policies and the composi-tion of the leadership.

"It is a particularly important moment in Viet-namese history." said Bradley Babson, the resident representative of the World Bank. "It has taken on a significance beyond the normal five-yearly party congress. They are coming out of a period of

consequences are beginning to become real for them."

liberalisation in 1989, Viet-nam's ailing economy has righted itself, investment and exports are up, and the vigour of private enterprise and rising incomes is evident from north to south. In 1990 Vietnam had has 800,000. Two years ago Hanoi had no taxis; now it has 1,000. Last year the country went from import-ing rice to being the world's third-higgest rice exporter.

'As Lenin taught. we are not afraid of free enterprises, but of not being able to supervise

and control them

This year the economy is expected to grow by more than 9 per cent. Inflation, which had soared to 600 per cent, is down to about 12 per cent. Nearly £12 billion in foreign investment is on the books, after the first big influx of

money last year. In one month last year Vietnam established diplomatic relations with the United States, set up a framework for relations with the European Union and joined the formerly antagonistic regional bloc, the Association of South-

tween rich and poor and becities and the lagging coun-tryside have widened rapidly, threatening social With reduced govern-

ment support, the quality of education and health care for the poor — more than half the population has deteriorated. Unemployment and underem-ployment have emerged as problems, along with the migration of poor people to already overcrowded cities. However rough the road, the economic reforms are irreversible, a Western dip-

"You see heated discussions now on ideology and it looks like the leaders are heading away from the pragmatism of do! moi.

"But at the same time, the trade ministry has begun discussions on how to reduce tariffs. If you go to the finance ministry they are working on a valueadded tax. At the central bank they are working on a stock market."

The core issue for the party congress is control. "As Lenin taught, we are not afraid of capitalist enterprises, but of not being able to supervise and control them," the Commu-nist Party general secre-tary. Do Muol, said last

The party seems determined to maintain a central role for state enterprises. It fears "peaceful evolu-tion" — an Asian Communist term referring to a Western conspiracy to impose capitalism by peaceful means, including influences such as foreign

advertising.
Some Vietnamese commentators have suggested that the United States is tagonistic regional bloc, still trying to win the Vietthe Association of SouthEast Asian Nations.
At the same time, gaps beR-52s. — New York Times.

Asian turmoil threatens US strategy

Korea, China, Taiwan and Japan . . . the US that the US could maintain president will visit a region full of tensions. writes **Martin Walker** in Washington

ton's arrival in a region bristling with tensions, in which the traditional trade squabbles between the United States and Japan have been

Despite three years of view-ing Asia and the Pacific Rim as the lucrative new focus of a-commercially-based US foreign policy, Mr Clinton leaves at the weekend for a possible war zone in Korea, the threat of a new cold war with China and a looming crisis in the 35-

year alliance with Japan. With a US aircraft carrier and task force keeping a wary eye on the tension between Taiwan and China, the region has become the leading security headache for an adminis tration which preferred to see Asia as an enormous eco

nomic opportunity. US and South Korean forces will continue to be sufficient | Pentagon's policy intellec-

News in brief

yesterday as a United Nations team toured the volatile

Ogoniland region to investi-gate the execution for murder last November of the writer

Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogoni activists. Placards called on the UN to intervene in the area and

described as "murderers" the military government and the oil giant Shell, which pumps

half of Nigeria's crude oil.

"The UN is our last hope.
There is tyranny in Ogoni,"
said Israel Bagbi, a member

of the Movement for the Sur-

Ogoni protesters tell UN

mission of military 'terror'

UNDREDS of people dem-vival of Ogoni Peoples (Mo-constrated against Nige-ria's military government protests.

MERICAN troops in | to deter any war on the South Korea were on Korean peninsula", the defence secretary, William militarised zone yesterday, in Perry, said yesterday affecting the Militarised zone yesterday affecting the Militarised zone with third violeting by North Korean troops of the demilitarised zone which has separated the Koreas since 1953. "But we have a continuing

concern that the government in North Korea might res pond in some sort of irrational way to the problem they see in trying to keep the regime in power."

The immediate crisis in

North Kores, triggered by floods which have produced widespread food shortages, will dominate Mr Clinton's Asian trip. But of great longterm significance is the underlying need to reassess the US security alliance with Tokyo after the effective rejection by Japan of the Nye report, which sought to chart US policy towards Asia for the next decade.

Dr Joseph Nye was brought from Harvard to become the

Asian stability by keeping up to 100,000 military personne in the region for another 20

But the Japanese policy es-tablishment is split on the matter. Among the younger generation particularly there is a growing desire for selfformer occupying power.
"The basic thrust of the

Nye report . . . is misguided, the former prime minister Morihiro Hosokawa said in a carefully prepared speech last month, which is being seen in the White House as Tokyo's statement of intent for a mon balanced security partnership in Asia.

Calling for the withdrawal of US ground forces and ma-rines from the Japanese islands of Okinawa, Mr Hosokawa suggested that Japan should reassess its constitutional restriction on its selfdefence forces, and seek a far more equal role in the alliance. "We can consider the co-op-

erative models created by Germany during the cold war as the most realistic policies," he told the Japanese-Ameri-can Society in Seattle. pre-positioning of military equipment, but warns that

the presence of American ground troops risks destroying the US-Japanese alliance. The emergence of China as a superpower — whether it be nuclear weapons testing, the territorial assertions in the

Of great long-term significance is the need to reassess the US security alliance with Tokyo

> South China Sea - reminds one if some ways of imperial China in the past," he said. "The only option for Japan's security as a maritime state is to build strategic alliances in the Asia-Pacific by joining hands with the US.

"The issue of Taiwan for Japan is similar to that of Calais in relations between France and England, or Gi-braltar during the Napoleonic

In effect, Mr Hosokawa | wars," Mr Hosokawa added calls for the retention of US | in an unusually blunt stateterests in Taiwan. Riichi Miyazawa, another

> adviser to the government, has warned that without the US defence umbrella, Japan will be forced to become a "nuclear power". If the Amer-Mittatem o forced out, peace and security in Asia could be threatened.

> "If China became a big military power and was seen as threatening Japan, then it may lead to Japan becoming a big military power," Mr Miyazwa told the Guardian recently.
>
> And be warned: "Japan as a

new democracy may not be able to manage this [nuclear] Weadon

The US defence secretary is due to discuss a possible scaling down of US bases in talks with Japanese officials next week, before Mr Clinton's visit on April 16-18. Mr Clinton will have talks with the prime minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, aimed at re-affirming the bilateral secu-

rity treaty which underpins ties between Tokyo and Washington

Rightwingers blame Unabomber's terror campaign on sixties campus radicalism

ian Katz in New York

HE American right has wasted little time placing the blame for the Unahomber's 18-year terror cam-paign, in which three people died and 23 others were maimed: the sixtles. Within days of the former

Berkeley professor David Kaczynski's arrest at his Montana cabin, rightwing commentators were diagnos-ing the causes of his transformation into an alleged serial

virulent and violent radical-ism that cloaked itself in po-litical pretension," said the Murdoch-owned New York

In a Wall Street Journal Murdoch-owned New York

ble onlookers — hardly seems

ler.

'The mid-to-late 1960s, to be charged with any of the loses its appeal".

At some point during the last hundred or so

years, writers, painters and musicians decided

that they didn't greatly care whether people at

large liked what they produced. Instead they

became more interested in what appealed to

their peer group of fellow-artists.

which he spent at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbour and at Berkeley, was a time during which American campuses were visited by a virulent and violent radicaling that cleaked itself in any of the political activism at the universities where he studied for his Ph D. but this has barely hindered by the cleaked itself in any of the political activism at the universities where he studied for his Ph D. but this has barely hindered by the cleaked itself in any of the political activism at the universities.

have encouraged the proliferation of violent fantasy—especially on the part of unstable onlookers—hardly—ble onlookers—hardly—ble onlookers—hardly—ble onlookers—hardly—ble onlookers—hardly—ble onlookers—hardly—ble onlookers—hardly—ble onlookers—hardly—ble onlookers—bardly—ble onloo cause "as technology surprising." cause "as technology
There is no evidence that alleviates pain and house

Chernobyl cancer link

THE Chernobyl catastrophe caused a sharp rise in thy roid cancers and may be linked to leukaemia among workers cleaning up the adioactive fallout, scientists told a conference in Vienna yesterday on the world's worst nuclear accident. Earlier studies were unable

to find any connection between the contamination and the cases of leukaemia, said Anatoly Tsyb, of the Russian Medical Radiological Research

Leaders from Bielarus, Russia and Ukraine stressed that cash and technical aid were urgently needed to ease the suffering of thousands of people living in contaminated

Experts head for volcano isle

The team was invited to Nigeria by its military rulers to investigate the executions. The mission is also looking into

General Sani Abacha's plan to

hand power to a democrati-cally elected president in 1998.

One man displayed cuts he said were inflicted on him by

demonstrate while these people are visiting. We have to live in the bush, the sol-diers are all around," said

Barida Nziga, another activ-

"We can only come out to

security forces.

ist -- Reuter.

BRITAIN is sending two seismologists to the Caribbean island of Montser-rat, where scientists have predicted a "climactic vol-

canic eruption". Volcanic ash shot five miles high over the island last night, days after thousands of residents were evacuated to government shelters and private bomes at the northern end of the British colony. It was the third time

since July that residents have been evacuated. The volcano had been virtually dormant for 100 years before then. About 400 people, many of them expa-triates, have left the island since the latest alert. - PA. official in a Buenos Aires sub-



the city centre yesterday as spring temperatures begin to climb after a long, cold winter

after a television station

France to sign | urb. lost his job yesterday | American kids nuclear treaty France, one of the world's five

nuclear powers, will sign a treaty tomorrow declaring Africa to be a zone free of nuclear weapons, the foreign ministry said yesterday. It said the Pelindaba treaty, which bars nuclear weapons and testing, would help fight the spread of nuclear weapons and boost negotia-

tions on a global ban on nuclear testing. — Reuter. Charter culprits

The Council of Europe has accused 15 of its 39 member states of breaking the Euro-pean social charter, which lists basic workers rights. They are Austria, Britain, Cyprus, Denmark, France. Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Nor way, Spain, Sweden and Tur-key. — Reuter.

Bribe on video Rodolfo Galeliano, a council

broadcast a secret video of him taking a £7,500 bribe, the final instalment of a £62,000 bribe from a dance hall, counting it and slipping it into an envelope. — Reuter. Somali fighting

More than 100 Somelis were killed and 410 people wounded in five days of inter-clan fighting in Mogadishu, Somalia, the Red Cross said. — Reuter.

Election clashes At least three people have been badly injured in clashes in Zambia during election campaigning which an inde-

pendent monitoring group de-

scribed as "extremely dirty

and violent". - AP. Inquiry suspended A Colombian special congressional committee has tempo-rarily suspended its investigation of President Ernesto Samper for drug corruption because most of its members

appear to be in conflict of in-

turned off TV

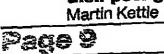
NEW viewing figures show that American children watch less television than they used to. Weekly television view-

ing hours among children aged two to 11 have fallen by 18 per cent in the last 12 years, according to Nielsen Media Research.

Most of the country's 28.2 million children still spend more time watching television than they devote to almost any other activity - an average of 21 hours and 38 minutes a week. This is a decrease of more than five hours a week

since the mid-1980s. Overall television viewing has held steady, with American men watching even more than they did 12 years ago. Children are spending

time playing with computers instead of watching television. - New York Times.



The Guardian

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To those that have

Why should the lottery so favour the south?

IN THE EYES of Virginia Bottomley. | collection: 93 per cent of the population Britain's National Lottery can do little | are within a couple of miles of a lottery wrong. To use the Heritage Secretary's | terminal. Hence the success of the colown words on the lottery's first anni-versary: "Nobody runs a lottery for as having had a flutter and 30 million little. Nobody returns as much money to good causes... as a politician, it is prudent occasionally to remember that 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it.' " Yet a completely different picture emerges today from the first of what is planned the charity board has also made pov-to be an annual report by the Directory erty a priority but it has only received of Social Change, the information and training agency for the voluntary sector, which with some justification claims to have produced the first comprehensive and independent review of all aspects of the lottery. Far from helping the disadvantaged and poor as the Heritage Secretary always emphasises, the new licensed gambling enterprise is second only to Conservative Chancellors as the greatest regressive redistributor of all time. As we set out in our Society section today, the £1.4 billion distributed to good causes has seen the most prosperous areas receive dollops of gravy while some of the poorest have not even had crumbs.

The unfair geographical distribution should embarrass even the unembarrassable Virginia. Perhaps the voters in tomorrow's byelection should be reminded that Staffordshire has received a mere £3 per head compared to West Sussex's £33. More seriously, not only have the poorest areas got the least but London and the South East are awash with grants. In anticipation of the Heritage Secretary's defence — big flagship grants are for the benefit of the nation as a whole — the report notes: "That Londoners should benefit to eight times the extent of people in the East Midlands seems to go beyond any easily defensible degree of variation.

One cause of the inequity is obvious: the small number of grants. If only the distribution of money could match its

continuing to play on a regular basis. Compare this comprehensive coverage with the small number of grants: only the charities board has come anywhere near the expected number. To its credit, 5p of every punter's pound. Grants from the other four distributing bodies (arts, heritage, millenium and sport) number in the hundreds rather than the thousands. Virginia Bottomley has been too disingenuous with her statistics: "Twothirds of awards are for less than £100,000, reinforcing the community emphasis." True, but that disguises the shameful share which large grants ab-

sorb leaving the "community emphasis" with only 15 per cent of the total.

One emerging social problem is the "hard" gambling which scratch cards are promoting. The cards involve all three incredients of the syndrome: a three ingredients of the syndrome: a short "arousing" span of play; high frequency of wins; the opportunity for immediate replay. It was for this reason that the Royal Commission on Gambling, which signalled its support for a weekly lottery, withheld approval of scratch cards. Just why they were allowed remains unclear. Just how serious the social problem generated by the cards has become is unknown because the regulator, Peter Davis, delayed the necessary monitoring. Yet he is under a statutory obligation not to licence any game which will "encourage persons to participate excessively in such lotter-les". His "inactivity" is rightly condemned by the report. His inadequacies have become inexcuseable. It is time the monitor of the regulator - the Commons select committee - took another look at his performance.

Letters to the Editor The Gospel according to Tony Blair . . .

cafeteria-style approach to biblical morality. They ap-pear content to repeat the Bible's warnings against in-justice and selfishness (although their preferred appli-cation of these through compulsory state action seems to afford no moral res-ponsibility for the private individual).

But the voting records of the Parliamentary Labour and Liberal Democrat Parties suggest that they are failing to adhere to clear Bible teachings on homosexuality, abortion and marriage. We may wish that the Bible was less clear on some of these very personal issues but when we fail to sumbit to its authority where it is at its

Director, Conservative Christian Fellowship, 12b Widecombe Court,

TASTE NO

RECOVERY

REASURY SIX WISE MONKEYS

THE only thing I have against Tony Blair is that he appears unwilling to de-fend his, and Labour's, views before the public. He seems to be unreasonably afraid that honestly held opinions will lose them the election.

Thus, you say that he is "likely to be distressed" by Tory reaction to his remarks on Christianity and conservatism. Why should he be? He should go on the attack him-self: conservatism is self-evidently at odds with the teach-

OME of your contribution right to employ it in defence are confusing Christianity and Norman Tebbit in 1986, with being good churchmen and will doubtless be reiter at the montgomerie. men"), which everybody knows they have always been. Mike Turner. 6 Clifden Road.

IMAGINE NO

RECOVERY

HEAR NO

ALTHOUGH I am an athe-ist, Mr Blair is, I feel, en-tirely correct to point out that it is necessary for any Chris-tian to examine the relationship of the individual as a member of a community. By so doing, one is following a Eucharistic view of Chris-tianity, creating the "king-dom of heaven" on earth; as opposed to the evangelical view of Christianity being composed of a one-to-one

relationship between the indi-vidual and God — as sup-

Middlesex TW1 4LX.

servative Party in 1996. Iain W McKinnell. 110 Whitstable Road,

ONY SLAIR is right to relate his politics to his understanding of the Chris-tian faith. Christians of all parties should do that. I base my Christian values on the belief that all people are children of God and sis-ters and brothers of one another. As such we should work for a world in which all are cared for without regard to existing divisions of class and race. (Rev) Gilbert J Tate

62 Bramstead Avenue.

HE disestablishment of the Church of England (Church bounces back from £800m property flasco, April 6) might easily be effected by

Treasury Briefing

Nationwide,

a Labour government.
Opposition within the Church might well evaporate if (rather like the building ieties promising handouts when they "float") the Gov-ernment promised that the Church could keep all the Church Commissioners' money. In this way, they would avoid the unpleasant-ness when the Welsh church was distestablished and dis-

endowed as well. This assumes that Tony Blair does not want to maintain the privilege of telling the Church who its bishops should be. (Rev) Steve Parish.

Warrington WA2 7QG.

When winning can mean losing

It's doing better or worse than expected that counts at by elections

Tories last won a parliamentary byelection. The date was February 1989, the place Richmond, Yorks, and the winner the young William Hague, now in the Cabinet as Secretary of State for Wales. Since then the Conservatives have unshakeably Tory in the country. such as Christchurch and Eastleigh, so it does not look as though there can be

Tamworth is traditionally a Tory town, not only as the home of Sir Robert Peel and of modern Conservatism in the 19th century but as a rapidly expanding overspill town for Brummies who have done well for themselves in the 1980s. It has more owner-occupiers the current political climate the Tories will have to do extremely well to hold the seat. On the basis of ICM's latest poll and a typical byelection turnout. they can expect to come in nearly 3,000 votes behind Labour. On the basis of the latest unadjusted Gallup poll they will trail Labour by 10,000. On the basis of the Birmingham Mail's own poll the gap will be 14.000. If Labour equals its post-war record swing in the Dudley West byelection, it will be nearer 16,000. failure. It is not just winning or losing, death of manifesto politics in 1997.

Passive listeners fight back

The mobile-free zone is a victory for the stiff-lipped traveller

IT SEEMS a political age since the but doing better or worse than expected, that has the capacity to give a party a boost or take the wind out of its sails. And that is why both sides, talking up their own chances in public, are busy talking up the other party's chances in private. It may well be the fought and lost 34 byelections. They first byelection where the Conservahave lost seats that had been among the | tives claim defeat as a victory and

It has already gone down in history as the byelection where the Conservamuch hope for them, on the face of it, in tives stopped holding press confertomorrow's byelection in Staffordshire ences. Time was when visiting politicians were expected to address election meetings in the evening. Now they do not even have to face press conferences in the morning. Their visit consists of soundbites for the local papers, photo opportunities in the High Street and interviews with local radio and television. The press can thank themselves than Cheltenham or Chichester. But in for this state of affairs. The practice of sending journalists to rough up politicians at press conferences owes a great deal to Peter Hitchens and the Daily Express in 1992. If the Conservatives are now fighting shy of press conferences, what hope is there of constructive debate at the next election? Tony Blair is already wary of policy commitments that will expose his party to the "tax bombshell" treatment. Policies can only go in the manifesto if they have no tax consequences. The result will be a Measured against such expectations promise-free election. Tamworth saw Labour is in just as much danger of the first Conservative manifesto in emerging from the byelection branded a 1834. Let us hope it doesn't presage the

and a few more Christian thoughts for the day

inate about public figures, morally upstage the Arch-bishop of Canterbury or even (pace Albert Camus) forgive

the Pope.

That's partly what they are for and they know it. But translate those vapourings into print and publish them and they become something else. Could you do the decent thing and make the point for Francis Wheen (The Arch-bishop makes Jeremiah look jolly, March 27)?

Archbishop said he could understand why davout Mus-lims were upset by The Sa-tanic Verses. This never did imply (how could it?) that he approved of the fatwa against

liman Rushdie. In China he spoke strongly, publicly and privately, to the regime about the "dark side"

acknowledging huge improvements in recent years. As he himself watched the eightmillionth Bible roll off the presses, quite openly, he was free to say that the practice of smuggling Bibles could have damaging effects. Maybe some wish he had spoken differently and on different issues but there is no reason here why he should not speak about moral absolutes, as he

has recently.
As for Philip Crowe's sugthat the Archbishop was "trying to make spiritual capital out of the Dunblane atrocity", how can one respond? No pas-tor would try to make "capi-tal" out of such a tragedy. The Archbishop spoke not only of the evil of the crime but of the publicly and privately, to the regime about the "dark side" positive values seen in resegration about the "dark side" posse to it. But the community of state practice towards the unity of distress and compassions that Nato intervention has a regular disciple of Christ London NW4 4NB.

(Ven) Michael Till. Archdeacon of Canterbury.

Chillenden Chambers. 29 The Precincts. Canterbury, Kent CT1 2EP.

YOU are right to point out the "folly of believing that arms supplies can make good deficiencies in international commitment" to reconstruction in Bosnia (A tale without instruction, April 9). How-ever, what is needed is not just a commitment to the reconstruction of buildings but a commitment to the reconstruction of the right relationship between different religious groups.

Courageous international religious leadership was lack-



made lasting peace possibility? (Rt Rev) Roger Sainsbury. Bishop of Barking, London E7 ORF.

WAS sorry to see that in your thoughtful editorial (April 6) you repeat the old error of identity that "Jesus let Mary Magdalen wash his feet with her hair". Poor Mary was not a prostitute but a regular disciple of Christ

neurotic symptoms by him and actually helped the group of disciples with money and food (Lk. 8, 1-3).

The woman who poured expensive perfume on him was not a regular follower and it is only Luke who describes her as "a sinner in the city" (7, 37). None of the gospels identifies her with Mary

THE CURRENT tighting in the Liberian capital, Mon-rovia, threatens a new disaster on top of an existing humanitarian emergency. For the first time in five years war has entered the centre of Monrovia, turning what had been a safe haven for up to one mil-lion civilians into a nightmare of conflict and looting.
As Monrovia is a key base

for aid operations to the interior, hundreds of thousands more people are cut off from the food and healthcare which agencies like Save the Children have been trying to get through across the many complex front lines.
While the safety of foreign

nationals is rightly causing concern, the short-term priority for the international community should properly be the safety of all non-combatants within Monrovia. It is vital to establish some mediation or establish some mediation or dialogue between the factions. The regional peacekeepers of Ecomog are not well placed to achieve this; the UN or US must try. The medium term priority should be to review the role of regional peacekeep-ing. The UN Secretary General has pointed to regional security arrangements as the preferred method of solving uture conflicts, but Ecomog's record in Liberia has always been dubious. It has been un able to prevent or contain the

latest fighting. Our 1995 report, Children of Forgotten Emergencies, sug-gested the international powers should re-engage with Li-beria, and that the UN should take back the reins of diplomatic negotiation. The need for this should now be appar-

Mark Bowden. Africa director. Save The Children Fund. 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD.

Liberate Liberia | **Prisons clean up their image** | THE prisoner who attended court in her night clothes did so after refusing to wear her own clothes, which were classified as "a deliberate

her own clothes, which were available to her, even after attempts by staff to persuade her to do so (immate 'went to court in a nightle', April 2). We have acknowledged that Holloway has faced consider-

able difficulties and we have also made it clear that action has been and is being taken to deal with the problems. Extra staff have been brought in to improve the regime and increase efficiency, new pest-control and cleaning programmes are

underway and much progres is being made. Richard Tilt. Director General. HM Prison Service, Headquarters. Cleland House,

self-injury case" by the Prison Service in 1994. Such high levels of human risk and damage would be unaccept-able in any other public

institution. There has been no independent inquiry into how a healthy 18-year-old was found hanging in the segregation block at Brinsford Young Offender Institution just minutes after being seen by prison officers. The internal investigation raises more questions than answers. The family is in the dark. How many more are going to shut their eyes? Mike Grewcock.

Legal Policy Officer. The Howard League, 708 Holloway Road, London N19 3NL.

Uncle Sam: saviour or salesman?

In search of a leader fit to follow

ship (On our worst behavlour, April 5) is right to sug-gest that integrity should be a criterion in deciding whether an individual is fit to be promoted to a senior position. But it is disturbing that he should contrast "character and leadership" with "intel-lectual achievement". Since when have British firms pro-moted people on the latter basis anyway? Character assessment can be subjective; a preference for good old-fash-

ORD Laing's article on practice might mean bad old-business ethics and leader-) fashioned class discrimination, one way in which Brit-ain really has barmed itself by comparison with some of its economic competitors. We should beware of an ob-

session with irrelevant mili-tary models and analogies. essful foreign economies are not our enemies, they are industrialised states does not only imply that there is more competition but also that there are more opportunities. ioned leadership, of the sort 51 Birch Grove, that "starts at school", in Potters Bar, Herts,

Page Street, London SW1P 4LN.

ON Brown's plane crash struction and Development, In Bosnia provides a rare the European Development insight into how the United Bank and other agencies. States uses military facilities to establish an early civilian presence in the re-construction business.

The White House called the passengers "business dele-gates": they included repreentatives of construction, e gineering and nmunications firms.

Ever since the second world

war, the US Corps of Army Engineers has provided bridgeheads into war zones, not just for soldiers, but for US engineering firms and contractors. By the time peace breaks out, these firms have already surveyed the should know? damage, designed solutions and prepared business plans for the World Bank for Recon- London W2 4NX.

Firms from the UK and other countries pick up the crumbs.

Far many years the UK
Association of Consulting Engineers, among others, has
made representations to the
Government concerning this
unfortunate situation. As far as I know, the Gov-

eroment still fails to acknowledge it, let alone consider a remedy. Enough is enough! This Government should get our telecom, engineering and construction experts to Bosnia now. Or is there something about

the "special relationship" we should know? John Wilson. 17 Prince's Mews,

A Country Diary

time since I went on a jaunt like this, nosing down back-lanes with an Ordnance Survey map draped over the passenger seat. But it's not the first time time the goal has been wild daffodils. Their bizarre distribution makes them an excitingly tentalising quarry when you're chasing the spring. We have two local colonies on loamy, acidic scarps, 10 miles apart, with barely a single bloom, authentically wild or not, between, those pert, bi-coloured blooms

CHILTERNS: It's been a long | between Silverstone racetrack and Stowe House, in search of a beguiling site mentioned by Druce in his 1926 Flora Of Buckinghamshire: "One of the woods at Stowe, near Black Pit Pond ... so profusely enamelled that the country people have denominated it the daffy-downdilly wood." Wood and pond are clear enough on the map, but near-impossible to get to. To the south a golf course, studded with the remains of the old Forest of They sprout in woods, orchards, hedgebottoms, marlpits and in stiff clumps above
the shorn grass in a row of
paddocks. They have been so
ellite circuits. In the end I sun-starved this year that give in and drive up a side they look like caricatures of track. The pond seems to lie the wild form: as tightly under an equestrian centre, bunched as florists sprays and the wood is now a larch and so dwarfed that the plantation. But poking flower buds are longer than through the bracken and long flower buds are longer than through the bracken and long the stalks. I badly wanted to grass are hundreds of spikes see a ripple of opened flowers, of daffydowndillies - indomitable, but, needless to say, with their pale cuter petals even more tig thrust forward ... So I find those at home. myself cruising the country even more tightly-shut than

RICHARD MABEY

tion as a social barometer. Their class system reflected the times and the more recent curbs on smoking reflect concern about passive smoking. The mobile-free zone represents a victory for passive listeners. A onesided conversation demands more attention than an overheard face-to-face | behind at home, missed lunch appointconversation. This could be the result

bile phones." The news, then, that Great Western Railways has set aside

the rear carriage on its London-West

Country route as a mobile-free zone

should not be cause for facile jubilation.

Nevertheless the reduction of the mo-

bile's domain, even if only by one-

eighth of a train, is welcome news. That

the railways are following the example

of some restaurants is only right: the

railways, after all, have a grand tradi-

"IT IS EASY," wrote Umberto Eco, "to I the assertive character of many mobile take cheap shots at the owners of mo- | phone users: in a recent House of Lords debate, prompted by the overheard mobile phone conversation of a Shadow Cabinet member, Lord Beloff suggested that handsets should be replaced by "badges of importance". It is also a victory for those wishing to push back the frontiers of work. The mobile office has lost a key component.

It is a very British compromise about a very British problem. Our reserve is nowhere more heightened than on public transport and mobile phones were initially thought too flamboyant to catch on in Britain. Yet as their use became widespread, the inhibitions of stiff-lipped travelling fell rapidly. Complete strangers were happy to let everyone know about vital documents left ments and imminent brief encounters. of faulty technology, with voices shout. Now we rear-carriagers can go back to ing to be heard. It could also be due to reading the Guardian in peace.

Diary

Matthew Norman

ROM Hollywood—
world capital of truth
and accuracy—comes
a new publication called 'TAIM''. An acronym for Truth and Accuracy In the Media" — the name of the group of self-styled "political leaders, artists and sports personalities" behind this newsletter __its intent appears to be to pun-ish journalists who are hor rid about the famous. To this end, it promises to build up a database of every hack in the world, so that subscribers (\$60 a year) can check up on proposed inter-viewers. Volume I, Issue 1, begins by naming a Dutch hack who was rude about an actress. More intriguingly, the front page offers a reward for information about World in Action jour-nalists, who are accused en masse of "constant discard of the truth". Curiously, the article states that "the nature of the investigation will not yet be revealed". More curiously, nowhere in the newsletter nor on the web site (http:// home.earthlink.net/taim/) is there any clue about those behind the organisa-tion — although at the lat-ter, at least I managed to download and print out a complaint form. (I am reporting myself to TAIM over the incident that led Peter Bolmondely to de-nounce me to the Commons.) One small thing: for sending the complaint, by post, to the "founders of TAIM" at a Hollywood PO box, the charge is \$49. Mm.

HE menu for April 4, concocted by Sutcliffe Catering for the employees of Reed Business Publishing in Sutton, is enticing. Fried cod with tartare sauce and a lemon wedge looks good value at £1.84, and so does a meat pie at only four pence more. However, the vegetarian dish (stir-fried vegetables) looks overpriced. Who would happily pay £1.60 for a portion of Nazi Goreng?

HE celebrity featured in Take A Break's questionnaire this week is Michael Winner and on entrancing form he is too. Some of the answers, in truth, strike me as needlessly personal — was it nec-essary to bring up his sperm count (the lowest in Europe) and his Y-fronts? — but the multi-millionaire is riveting on the seduction techniques that have made him such a catch. "I rush around the house when girlfriends are he reveals, "then I suddenly turn the lights out, scream and chuck a bucket of water over them." What a one off

N keeping with the newly privatised status of the Diary — whereby the publicity-crazed must pay for any mention — Michael Winner will be charged £470 (VAT in-cluded) for this piece.

O those we adore, we gladly give freebies— and so to the new Book of the Month. Major, Major (Memories of An Older Brother), by Terry Major-Ball, is published shortly in paperback at £7.99, and a magnificent read it is too. We begin on the eve of the leadership ballot in Novem ber 1990. Terry visits 11 Downing Street, and soon his brother John, the Chancellor, returns hungry, only to discover that the fridge is bare. "For me it was a kind of role reversal," writes Terry. "Thirty years beforc. when John and I had worked together in the gar-den-ornaments business in Camberwell, it was John who went to the baker's for cakes and buns." Having dropped the bombshell that once, due to a misunderstanding. John was returned by police. Terry goes on: "This time, however.it was clearly my res-ponsibility. I asked John what he wanted, 'Any-thing,' he said, just as he always did in the old days. Pie and chips if they have them"." The spine tingles.

N unlikely contender has come forward in the search for Britain's drollest public-relations practitioner. Andrea Marks sends a press release from Edgware, Middlesex, in the cause of BookTrack, a publishing client, and as an example of subtle opportunism, it demands warm praise. "BSE could be good news." the headline an-nounces, "for vegetarian food writers".



People's revolution on the turntable

Commentary

Martin Kettle

NE of the most pernicious but powerful intellectual fashions of the past 20 years has been the attempt by some historians to prove that large numbers of the supposedly key turning points of human history didn't happen at all. If you thought there was a French Revolution in 1789, forget it: that was just a forget it that was just a struggle for power in Paris. Ditto the English Revolution of the 1640s and the Russian Revolution of 1917. And as for the industrial revolution, no. there wasn't one of those

agricultural revolution, Young asked him? I don't know about that, the farmer replied, but I know that last year I had a herd and a farm and this year I have none.

The attempt to deny that there are any turning points in human experience is a very postmodern fashion. Its immediate purpose is to provide an intellectual underpinning for the revolt against the

ning for the revolt against the collapsed certainties of marxism. But it also happens to have the very substantial side-effect of accepting that everything is just as relevant as everything else.

As part of the attempt to reclaim the big questions from the expert élites, let me pose this one. At what point in human history did artists begin to ignore the public? I don't know when it happened. But unlike the posimodern historians I know that it did. I'm with Arthur Young's

destitute farmer interviewed | greatly care whether people by Arthur Young two centuries ago. Has there been an duced instead they became at large liked what they produced. Instead they became more interested in what appealed to their peer group of fellow-artists.

Anyone who, like me, spent

a large part of the bank holi-day tuned to Classic FM will know that the gulf between the élite and the public is as large as it has ever been. A few weeks ago, the station dreamed up the wheeze of asking listeners to send in cards listing their three favourite pieces of music. By the time the cards were collected, 27,000 people had replied; that made 81,000 favourite choices. Over the Easter weekend they broadcast the top 300.

By far the most powerful conclusion from the exercise is that the musical establish-ment of today is totally out of touch with popular taste. With very lew exceptions, the top 300 choices were tonal, tuneful and emotionally en-For those who prefer a bit farmer. At some point during of certainty it is hard not to respond to these kinds of claim with the words of the

worthwhile has been produced in our time. That would be crude, rude and untrue. But it certainly makes you think. Or rather it certainly ought to make musicians think. What conclusions do today's musicians do today's musicians do today's musicians do to the fact that barely lishmant explodes in condedraw from the fact that barely any of them has ever written a single sheet of music to which the wider public re-sponds with anything more positive than indifference? Is this their fault or the pub-lic's? Do they have anything to say about this state of affairs?

Clearly in some cases they try. Some modern-art music composers are groping their way back towards tonality. The success of Gorecki (whose third symphony was 99th in the 300). Glass, Pärt and a few others has to be seen as a attempt to reach out to the tonally starved listener of today. But they are still iso-lated voices, still drowned out by the overwhelmingly selfreferring majority who all too often can find nothing much to say to the public.

ECAUSE I am a liberal at heart, I do not deny the musical es-tablishment's right to do as it does. But after three days listening to the people's choices, we are entitled to know why this élite behave as they do. why they seem to live in a wholly separate Rach-maninov-free world, with absolutely foreign terms of ref-erence, compared with the lay public. No one should be ask-ing our composers to produce bland, derivative, copy-cat rubbish. But we should surely

lishment explodes in conde-scending anger, let me make a point they may find easier to accept. The Classic FM 300 was a reprimand to other interest groups too. The list did not reflect the CD charts. It was not a list of snippets. Symphonies and concertos took all the top placings. The much-vaunted opera revolu-tion made much less of an im-pact than you might have expact than you might have ex-pected from the publicity for Pavarotti and the rest (not surprising when the price of tickets to the Wembley Three Tenors concert ranges from a maximum of £350 to a mini-mum of £160). The list was almost as much of a rebuff to the marketing culture of the recording industry as it was

to the composers.

I am sure the reflex reac tion of the professionals will be to belittle and deny the validity of the people's taste. The professionals should be more humble. The people may be traditional and conservative, but they know that they have been disenfran-chised. They know that Bach has more to say to them than Berio. They know that the French Revolution took place. And they know we all deserve much better from our trivial ising, fashion-seeking élites than the tired repetition of their self-serving view that anything new is better than everything true.

Thrill to the magic of television



Catherine Bennett

ERE'S a mystery. British broadcasters believe in magic. What other explanation can there be for the recent plague of paranormal programmes.' At first, when LWT produced Strange But True?, and later, when Carlton came up with Beyond Belief and The Paranormal World Of Paul McKenna, the programmes could by conjurers; no one objected that if the tricks are examples of mental, rather than muscle bend spoons with his nose, not his hands. Above all, why are his feats so pointless? If broadcasters are truly interested in exploring the public something more than this procession of devotees and zealots, many of whom Kenna, the programmes could be dismissed as a particularly low form of light entertain-ment, calculated to exploit

public credulity.

But that now the BBC has joined forces, we must think again. Perhaps our broadcast-ers really do believe in ghosts and sorcery, aliens and time slips? This week BBC2 begins a series called Secrets Of The Paranormal, in which six enthustasts are each allotted 30 minutes to promulgate mumbo-jumbo. It appears they will be undisturbed by sceptics, scientists, or anyone else who might spoil the feast of superstitious speculation. Lest there be any doubt about the quality of these testimonlals, the new series is categorised in the current Radio

Times as "factual".
The first offering features
Jenny Randles, who is
proudly introduced as a
"world renowned ufologist". Viewers may not, however, be aware that UFO investigation is not Miss Randles' only claim to paranormal expertise. In Jenny Randles, the BBC has picked a paranormal all-rounder, who has previously applied her detective skills to poltergeists, precog-nition, time travellers, ancient curses, reincarnation, faith healing, hauntings, and a washing machine which mysteriously sucked energy

from a housewife.

And now Miss Randles is on peak-time television, pro-moting her theory that the Ministry of Defence is some how covering up its investiga-tions into UFOs. Particular tions into UFOs. Particular miracle, unless the testimony attention is paid to a snap of a be of such a kind, that its girl with a spaceman on her | falsehood would be more mi head, taken in 1964; and to raculous than the fact which another taken in 1683, by a Victorian ufologist: "He denied the object was an insect until the day he died."

Further programmes in the series will take the same. uncritical approach to faith healing, ghostbusting, and spirit surgery. Here comes Matthew Manning, the polter geist fancier and automatic writer turned faith healer. Here, looking hardly a day older than he did in 1978

fortunes of Reading Footbal Club with his psychic powers.
Geller's rehabilitation as a
paranormal mastermind is
the clearest indication that
programme makers are no longer prepared to spoil a good story with rational objections. When he reappeared, last year, on David Frost's Beyond Belief, no one mentioned that many of Geller's stunts have been replicated by conjugate, and one objected by conjurers; no one objected that if the tricks are examples

paranormal, they owe the public something more than this procession of devotees and zealots, many of whom make money from their speciality. It will be argued, of course, that viewers will make up their own minds. But mankind, as Hume said, has a "propensity towards the has a "propensity towards the marvellous". Houdini could not persuade Sir Arthur Conan Doyle that he was noth-ing more than a conjurer. More recently, the American conjurer James Randi pre-sented six television programmes aimed at disabusing the public of belief in the paranormal and the psychic.
An IBA study showed that viewers' belief in the paranormal did not decrease at all after this protracted debunking; indeed the number of records, reporting reporting. people reporting reporting paranormal experiences actually went up.

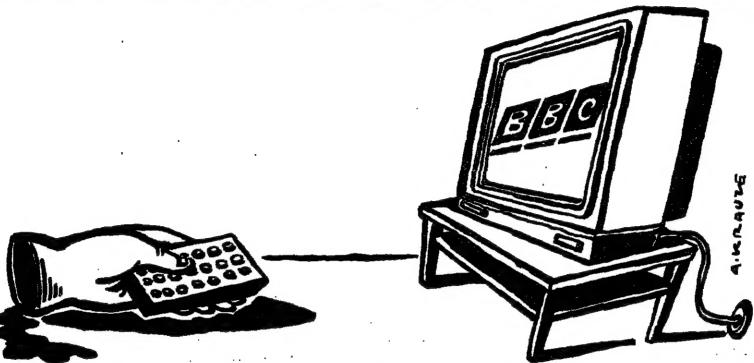
ARANORMAL investi-gators like to draw on the past, to justify their fascination. Ghosts have been been around for centuries, they aver: ditto horoscopes; the heavenly armies and hosts of the past were the precursors of our UFOs. But as Keith Thomas says, in Religion And The Decline Of Magic, the societies which believed in these phenomena knew rather less than ours about science and the natural world: "Lacking any natural explanation, men turned to a supernatural one." Even when no explanation

is forthcoming, we can still employ Hume's maxim on miracles: "That no testimony is sufficient to establish a it endeavours to estabmore probable that Randles and her witnesses are deceiv-

nents, monitoring the space race? Again, is it more probable that broadcasters are cynically misleading the public or that they genuinely believe in the paranormal? According when he appeared on the to Hume, you pick the greater Dimbleby Talk-In, is Uri miracle, and then reject it.

ing or deceived; or that in the

1960s, alien spacemen were materialising between conti-



John Tusa argues that the BBC's choice loaded, the tone speering, and that even if sympathy for Sadion of a Saudi partner in Arabic television was of a Saudi partner in Arabic television was of voice indicated that the tone of voice indicated that fraught with risk. Below, Tim Liewellyn wonders where it can find a purer bride

like a contradiction in terms rather than natural partners. The decision by the Saudi media company Orbit and BBC Worldwide (the holding company for commercial operations) to start an "or-derly rundown" of the two-year-old joint venture BBC World Service Television in Arabic is a reflection of the fundamental contradiction at its heart and acknowledges that what was always an editorial gamble on the BBC's part has not paid off. It is a blow to the BBC's attempt to find a "third way" of funding its international television project, and could signal a setback for those tendencies within Saudi Arabia itself that seek more open, modernising policies.

Anyone involved in the Arabic Service television project on the BBC's side must — or should — have been well aware of the World Service's

HE WORDS "Saudi" the Saudi government during and "editorial free dom" sound more haved true to their cautious form at the very start by not broadcasting news of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on their own media for several days. By then, Saudi citizens knew all about it from the BBC in Arabic or English, or from the VOA or CNN. Reluctantly perhaps, but certainly slowly, the Saudi media followed where others led.

The Saudi government turned its attention to what it was convinced were heavily biased broadcasts from the BBC Arabic Service. Accusations - channelled through the British ambassador in Riyadh and passed on by the Foreign Office - started landing on my desk at Bush House. That the coverage was dis-torted; that the Arabic Service was staffed only by Palestin-ians or by Iraqi-sympathising Jordanians, that more news stories originated from Bagh-dad than from "friendly" allied long-running difficulties with | capitals; that the language was

it was. There was only one way to deal with these allegations by disproving them. I told the Arabic Service staff that I doubted that these charges were accurate. But if I was to defend them confidently I had to be able to do so on the basis of firm evidence. I asked the then head of the Arabic Ser-

vice, Sam Younger, now man-aging director of the World Service, to carry out a series of detailed monitoring exercises on the service's output. They established beyond question that Saudi charges of direct or indirect bias or distortion were totally untrue. A distinguished Arab academic listened to hours of broadcasts on my behalf and assured me that neither tone of voice nor use of language had the effect of in-troducing a distortion words alone might not reveal.

Even so, it took some months for Saudi grumbling to die down and FCO suspicions to be allayed. That experience must have been fully weighed in the difficult decision to start up a BBC Arabic TV Service with Saudi money. There were many voices, not least from within Bush House itself. warning against the wisdom of

no matter how many editorial safeguards were written in. It would be good to think that the new executives in BBC Worldwide, most with no experience of the perils of international broadcasting listened to those anxieties. On one side they had to consider the risk to the BBC World Service's reputation if it tailored its output to suit Saudi being shown the door because they did not. On the other side, BBC Worldwide was driven by a need — imposed from Broad-casting House — to be commercial, entrepreneurial, thrusting and global as part of the 'new' BBC's public positioning. Forbidden by the Government to fund World Service Television by diverting money either from the World Ser-vice's grant-in-aid or the do mestic services' licence fee, BBC World Service from the start of the television opera-tion in 1992 has had to find partners who could provide the investment capital which the BBC did not have. Many of them have been sound editori-ally and financially. They are not easy to find.

Among the journalists who pioneered the service, a few thought it was doomed from the start but had to be at-

the knowledge that the Saudi royal family watched the service and enjoyed it. No doubt the "Lady Chatterley" factor played a part you can view it, but not the servants. So what are the conclusions from this sad affair? First, that it represents another battle honour for the World Service

— it has paid the price of exclusion from an audience because it stayed true to the needs of that audience for truthful and accurate information. (Other satellite broadcasters, please note.) Second, that the risk analysis of taking part sensitivities; or the opposite in the joint venture with the risk, that has now occurred, of Saudis after the Gulf war was insufficiently rigorous.
Third, that the BBC's own drive to "commercialism" may

tempted; others knew it was on

a knife edge; few were cheered

have taken precedence over necessary concern to protect the World Service's editorial standing. Fourth, that so long as World Service Television is funded in such a contradictory way, so long will it fail to compete as fully as it might with its internationally funded competitors, and so often will risks be taken in the search for partners who can open the way to new audiences. Fifth, that the advocates of openness Saudi royal family have lost a battle. Both they and the BBC World Service must devise new strategies to win their respective wars.

John Tusa was managing director of the BBC World

In search of snowdrops

mit undiluted television mit undiluted television news to the corners of the Arabic-speaking world fills with despair those inside the BBC who have worked hard to provide the service and those inside the Arab world who will now know the lack of it. the lack of it.

The Arabs are news addicts. Deprivation of their own trusted sources creates in them a burning thirst for others. A schoolteacher in Belrut, a civil servant in

Belrut, a civil servant in Baghdad, a Bedouin in Ku-wait or a driver in Somalia — I have seen them all, rwirling across the dial: Monte Carlo, Israel Radio, local radios, but always to the BBC, in English and Arabia especially during abic, especially during those recurring crises that rend the Middle East. They have been well-served by the swarm of radio stations, the BBC at the centre, and the BBC at the center, and the defences of autocracy, from government-chan-human-rights suppression, neled funding. Worldwide battered the babel.

But television is begin-

severely restrictive societies, the satellite dishes march, as if in some John Wyndham vision, across roofs and backyards. But what vernacular messages are they pulling down? Apart from the BBC's, frankly, nothing much but carefully controlled pap; certainly not the pertinent news of viewers' own homelands that overseas public broadcasting is designed to deliver. Perhaps this is why the authorities in these enclosed nations do not really resist the satellite invasion. It has been the spicing-up of this largely bland intake that has prompted the Saudi-owned outfit Orbit to black out coverage of the Saudi dissident, Mohammed al-Mas'ari, and has ended prematurely an in-choate experiment that was beginning to blast a hole in

rescue comes — of the BBC's attempt to transt andiquted television | ning to dominate the mass | knowledge. If not al-Masser | s'ari, it would soon have | s'ari, it would soon have | been something else. Panoral indiguted television | severely restrictive societ | orama's Death of a Principal indiguted | orama's Death or ple, perhaps, which upset the Saudis' camel-coated camp-followers in London as much as the Saudis themselves; or just unhappily ac-

pening in the region. The BBC's decision to ask a Saudi organisation to transmit its news to the Middle East was like Unprofor asking the Serbs to pro-vide protection for an aid convoy to a Muslim village. To be fair, the BBC had little choice if it was at least to mount the experiment. BBC overseas television. with its tendency to add two or three zeros to any radio cost, and its harrowing lack of resources for news-gathering and satellite transmissions, has almost found its legs and its confidence in the BBC's English-language Worldwide Service, Barred

son group, which presum-ably sees a potential profit. But the Arabic-language experiment, again with no funding through govern-ment, and no British commercial takers, was forced into the arms of an Arab. inevitably a Saudi, partner. The bride wore black, and crossed her fingers.
Who else had the money?

Sure, but who already controlled 90 per cent of the worldwide Arabic-language media based in Britain, and would like to expand? Who are anxious that their citizens should see an anodyne version of Arab events and nothing but processed news about themselves? The marriage was doomed.

The relentless rise of TV - in its power to attract audiences, its tendency to trivialise and blunt news and comment, and the awesome costs it incurs and Britain seems hard put to afford - is an unhappy development for freedom of information overseas. A great blanket of undisturbing images and slogans threatens to descend across an already under-informed

Radio retains its impor-

tance, but will be over-shadowed in countries where TV is becoming the sort of pervasive novelty it was in Britain 30 or 40 years ago, without the rival sources of information the British retained. A real Arabic TV news service, of the sort the BBC could mount with the right funds and without a bent partner, will need to be professional and convincing.

But the amounts needed are not large: about £25-30m yearly to fund the TV Arabic service. Who can provide? A consortium, perbaps? The Qataris are rich and delight in upsetting their Gulf neighbours. What about an Arab gadfly, like Mohammed al-Faved looking for respectability?

The hope must be, over all experience, that wealthy Arab altruists or idealists are riding to the rescue, with no axes they will insist on grinding and no icons they are worried will be be-smirched. They will be as bard to find as snowdrops at Wadi Rum.

Tim Liewellyn was the BBC's Middle-East correspondent 1976-80 and 1987-92



"Help vanishing species! Get sponsored and join The Great WWF Shark Swim!"





A lion in winter . . . Johnson's Oscar-winning performance as Sam the Lion in The Last Picture Showkora

Ben Johnson

A natural player on screen and horseback

ic cowboys to make a career in the movies. Born in mance and horsemanship, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, of that he gave him the title role mixed Irish-Cherokee descent, in his elegiac The Wogonmas mixed Irish-Cherokee descent, he spent his early years as a rodeo steer-roper, at which he became world champion.

Johnson first arrived in

Hollywood as a horse wrangler for Howard Hughes's *The Outlow* in 1942, and was later ployed as a stuntman and double in Westerns. But his sturdy good looks, soft, southern drawl, and laconic personality came to the attention of John Ford, who cast him as a cavalry officer in Three God-

He soon became a beloved stock company that included Victor McLaglen, Harry Carey Ir and Ward Bond. In She Wore a Yellow Ribbon (1949). the second of Ford's Cavalry trilogy, Johnson portrayed John Wayne's ever-reliable

EN JOHNSON, who has died aged 75, was one of the last authenSo impressed was Ford by revealed that he was a more

As a frontier guide leading a Mormon Wagon Train

through unexplored regions of the West, Johnson justifies being mythically etched against the sky as they reach The Promised Land. Yet he was too reserved a character to be more than a supporting

actor in most of his films.
Some directors, other than
Ford, did give Johnson a
chance to expand his repertoire by casting him as a baddie in Courte Street Shares die. In George Stevens's Shane (1953), Johnson is the surliest of the cowboys who tells Alan Ladd that he's not welcome in the bar. "Pig farmers and sod busters like you can't drink with real men." he says, and tosses a drink on to Ladd's shirt front.

expressive and versatile per-former than his reputation allowed. In Sam Peckinpah's The Getaway (1972), he played corrupt tycoon, Steve McQueen's pemesis; in Steven Spielberg's debut feature, The Spielberg's debut feature. The nier it got. What I'm about to say will start a controversy the world; was a tough police captain around the world; this world, was a tough police captain around the world; this the here and leading the chase for a young couldn't have happened to a now as per-

couple; and in Robert Al-drich's *Hustle* (1975), he por-trayed an insanely vengeful father of a murdered danovich who resurrected Ben Johnson as a John Ford totem in The Last Picture Show (1971) for which he won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor. In this homage to Ford one of Bogdanovich's heroes Johnson gave a marvellous

the owner of a fleapit movie theatre, which is being closed

lown in a small Texas town.

tional Commission of Jurists

pression. I was so moved by The Killing Fields, what cour-

age on Haing S Nor's part himself having experienced

the Khmer Rouge's brutality, to have depicted Dith Pran's

horrific story so vividly. We

should never forget the cour-age of the Vietnamese and

Cambodian people who en-

dured so courageously to

bring freedom to their

mid-nap, I answer it in an especially clear and wide-

wake voice that I don't usu-

of these naps leave me a touch

groggy, though this soon enough disappears. Usually, they all do the job, which is to

help get me through the eve-

planes, trains, buses, and cars, and with a special profi-

ning . . . I nap well on air-

ciency at concerts and lec-

tures. I am. when pressed,

able to nap standing up. In

spoken to. I have not yet

certain select company I wish

learned to nap while I myself

am speaking though I have felt the urge to do so. The American Scholar takes

a quick forty winks on the sub-

ject of napping, reprinted in the UTNE Reader.

Nimble fingers

MY FIRST experience with

online sex came when I joined The Source in 1984. In those

heady days almost every en-counter was like magic, and had the hypnotic effect of real

time exchanges . . . It was

ally bother evoking when I

screen. Johnson delivers a touching soliloquy reminisc-ing about a youthful idyll.

At the Oscar ceremony, he gave one of the most honest

acceptance speeches for years. He said he left his written

speech at home because "the

longer I worked on it, the pho-

stand as the epitaph for Ben Johnson and the many other fine character actors in West-

erns. "So here they are, the dog-faced soldiers, the regu-lars, the 50-cents-a-day profes-

sionals, riding the outposts of a nation . . . Men in dirty shirt blue, and only a cold page in

the history books to mark

and "standards". It was is typical of Lucy that she was still in contact with people

She carried her dedication

Hans Blumenberg

Probing thinkers' final thoughts

died aged 75, was fascinated by the words were not recorded, at-

"Philosophers are people of whom it can be frivolously said that they die profession-ally. One expects of them at least that the hour of the end

His own last words are unknown but, just before he died, Blumenberg wrote an edition of the diaries of his felending with the question:
"But for whom?" This question is parhaps the best epitaph for Blumenberg himself, a philosopher whose remark-able literary gifts allowed him

able literary gifts allowed him to reach a broad public but may have cost him the respect of his academic colleagues.

He spent his final years as a recluse, sleeping all day and working all night. He refused to be photographed during the later part of his life and only one nicture of him taken in one picture of him, taken in 1965, is now in circulation. Despite his fascination with the final moments of life, Blumenberg was not a metaphysician preoccupied by the philosoph-ical problems that cluster

He was in fact, a passionate cal school of his own, he began advocate of the importance of to explore new subjects in an

now as per-Only by focusing licer feller." ceived by Perhaps the last lines of She humans. Alon the world we Wore A Yellow Ribbon could though scientific know can we hope knowledge to answer life's tual curios-ity have made the great questions

human

Chris Seward

HE GERMAN phi-losopher Hans Blu-mar Republic. Blumenberg memberg, who has died aged 75, was just before the second world that we can live on earth and see stars," the book begins, "that the conditions of living do not exclude those of seeing. war broke out. He studied philosophy, German literature and classical philology at the or the other way around."

> ontology in 1947. The end of the war and the experience of Nazism had left German philosophy in a state of shock and a new generation of philosophers began to question the very basis of the mod-ern tradition — the Enlightenment. Did not the Holocaust prove that the modern emphasis on reason had not led to an act of creation out of nothing. they asked, but to the creation of nothingness?

universities of Frankfurt, Hamburg and Klel, writing a doctoral thesis on scholastic

most eloquent defender of the Enlightenment, arguing that, after the collapse of theologi-cal absolutism at the end of the medieval era, the old idea that human life was ordered does not derive from the achievements of Reason but By the time his 500-page book
Die Lexitimität der Neuroit (The Legitimacy of the Mod-ern Era) was published in 1966, Blumenberg was already 1966, Blumenberg was already at the apex of a brilliant acaconsolidating his position in the intellectual world with a

> In Die Gene sis der Koperni-kunischen Welt the Copernican World) he examined how astronomical discoveries

entirely new

world seem ever smaller and I ings saw themselves. The ess significant in relation to book is a remarkable intellecthe cosmos, Blumenberg argued that it is only by focusing on the world we know that we of Blumenberg's knowledge. It can we hope to answer life's also marks the start of his

gemeine Zeitung and the even more austere Neue Zürcher Zeitung Fellow academics began to mutter that Blumenberg was nothing more than an old story-teller and he started to withdraw from social life.

His last years were spent as The author goes on to exama recluse in a small village in ine "the fragile balance between what is necessary and Westphalia where he turned the day into night, maintaining contact with the outside phasise the precarious posi-tion occupied by mankind. The beauty and clarity of Bluworld by means of long, mid-night phone calls. His last book was published in 1989, after which he abandoned his memberg's prose won him a large readership among well-educated Germans who are repelled by the opaque jargon of much philosophical discourse. Newspapers started commissioning short articles and essays and he became a regular contributor to the Denis Staumton

Hans Blumenberg, philosopher, born July 13, 1920; died March



Blumenberg . . . gifts allowed him to reach a broad public

she visited Lancaster Univerco-escance from Nazi-occupied Paris) and spoke to stu- Driberg. Rosie will be sadly dents about her experiences. What your obituary failed to mention was the fact she walked from Paris to the Swiss border only to be turned back, then having to walk to Spain in order to escape. Her Special Operations Executive work also in-pearances on it. Usually volved "treading banknotes" viewed as a pillar of the estab-in her stockinged feet in lishment, he poked fun at it in been in circulation.

kind and amusing people I gratitude for the develop-have ever known, her gen-erosity with spare first-night stemmed from that first tickets was legendary, as was her extraordinary fund of anher extraordinary fund of anecdotes — theatrical, show
business and political. My
favourite story about her conminded secretary at the
House of Commons, organising the very few staff of the conthe ecdotes — theatrical, show
business and political. My
obituaries of Niall Macder
mott (February 26), and Haing
S Ngor (February 27), brought
back disturbing memories.
From 1968-73 I was involved
with a group working for po-

friend. colleague and successor to the fount of the most amazing anecdotes - Tom

Alistair Dowson writes: John Snagge (Obituary, March 27) was instrumental in getting the BBC hierarchy to put The Goon Shote on radio back in order to make pristine notes those same urbane, beauti-appear that they had long fully modulated tones. Millions of listeners and viewers Rosle was one of the most lowe John Snagge a debt of Goons series.

Roger Smith writes: I first met | Labour MPs (and, she assured | litical prisoners in Saigon, | who had been in the care of Rosemary Say (Obituary, | me, some Tories) along with | Vietnam. Amongst these was | Oxford City. They will miss Rosemary Say (Oblinary; me, some Tories) along with Vietnam. Amongst these was Oxford (April 3) in the mid-1970s when Jo Richardson, her great a lawyer, Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh, her too. fighting for self-determina-tion for her country. When Niall MacDermot was secre-tary-general of the Interna-

and her energy with her to the House of Lords. When I turned to her for political advice and support, she was we relied on our contact with him on behalf of Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh. Those five years in Vietnam left an indelible imclear about what she could do and what was expected from us. This was done with both firmness and great humour-Lucy was a Conservative peer, but justifiably prided herself on her independence.

> Ruth Lister writes: Lucy Faithfull will be remembered with affection by those in the poverty lobby. She played a pivotal role in organising op-position in the Lords to some of the most damaging clauses in the 1986 social security bill. When the government packed that house with backwoods-men to ensure the bill's pas-sage. Lucy reported after-wards how she had tried to lure an unsuspecting peer who did not know the ropes into the "wrong" lobby — an example of her endearing sense of mischief.

on the road to Cubal

Sussex University, after an Oxford degree, Chris Seward never worked in formal education. He followed a passion to work with people guela-Cubal road in that country. He died aged 46.

Chris was a workaholic, open, straightforward and principled. "If you know him now, you have always known in need. He became a play-leader at a Wandsworth women's rafuga, a community worker, a housing projects of-ficer with Shelter in York-shire and Humberside. By the him," a friend observed shortly before his death. "He hasn't changed, he is quite early 1990s his path had taken

unique." Chris was born in Surrey, and moved to Essex as a nine year-old. He went to King Ed-ward VI Grammar School, Chelmsford, before winning a scholarship to Lincoln College, Oxford, to read English. He taught briefly at a compre-

hensive before Sussex.
It was later, while working with Shelter that he retrained as a carpenter, a skill which won his first overseas job. It was with Save The Children in Burkina Faso refurbishing and constructing new health in Angola centres. He moved on to to replace. Guinea Bissau for three years, where he learned Portuguese and provided techni-cal and management training Back in Britain, he took a

ESPITE taking an education certificate at Sussex University, after an Oxford degree, Chris staff members on the Ben a stint in Angola with Unicer co-ordinating an emergency health programme. In 1993 Chris joined Oxfam

as an emergency support manager. These three years were the most traumatic and the most joyful time of his life. He married a Rwandan. Predentienne, but he was in Zaire when the civil war and genocide in her country erupted. It took weeks to find her but with their reunion came the revelation that most of her family had been

Chris's 1994 appointment as Oxfam's deputy country representative in Angola gave the couple a new-found peace.
Their son, Mahoro — peace in
Kierwanda — was born in
Angola. Predentienne and
Mahoro are now back in England. Chris, say his colleagues in Angola, will be impossible

Paul Sherlock

Christopher John Seward, aid worker, born Decamber 3, 1949, died April 3, 1996.

Death Notices

CHOWN, Gresham. On Tuesday 2nd April 1966, much loved husband of Par and talker of Farkel. A private of emistion will be held on 9th April and a memorial service on 27th April at 11em at Saxby All Suneb. Church. Lincolnshire Family Rowers only, donations to Carter Research, oro any branch of the Midfand Berk.

HEMBRY, Basil, suddenly on April 8th 1996 Farmer, conservabonist and litelang worker for peace Private cremation Farmerly Resease only Donations if desired to UNICE, care of the Funural Directors, Russell D. Green, 698 High Street. Saltron Walden, Eessa. CBIO 16E fiel 01795 51964th.

MELLORS, Flobert George, B. Nottingham 28,1048, O. Warsaw 27,196 (Ex L.S.E. G.L.F., Electric Cinemia & c i Thinker, writer, dancer

ARRIVAY Derek Bradisugh of Wheath-ampareed, Heris Died 5 April 19ed 65 alter 12 long hard years of suffering Husband of Diane, father, grandisther and sailing onthusball. Private cremation Donations II wished to The Stewarts, Harpenden Heris ALS 47A or PYA Saulsbildy PROKETT, Sir Rayropord Mildiney Wheen

waterial very care raise raises Appeal
Whitn'ell, D.R. Phillips, of Peebles, Scotland On 4th April 1996 ofter a short illness,
GP. Paedlartician poet and creative
thirtner, greatly toxed and loving histoard
of Pauline, lather of Jerny, Judilli. Miranda, Kate and Nicola and grandatier of
1 paradichidren. Enquines to Rabin Hill 2
Eatigute Poobles

In Memoriam

IN MEMORY, site of all disabled people murdered in the Holocaust MTo place your announcement telephone 0171 713 4667. Fax 0171 773 4129

Birthdays

Jackdaw

Zzzzzzzz

I HAD ON gray wool trou-

in-hand knit tie, which I

didn't bother to loosen. My

hands were folded together

on my chest in the corpse-in

hadn't turned back the bed-

spread. It was 3.30 on a cold

and gray February afternoon

My next appointment was at

5 o'clock, and there was noth-

ing at that moment, that I

was eager to read. Into the

arms of Morpheus I slipped, and for the next half-hour I

slept, I won't say like a baby

or like a log, but like what I

now prefer to think myself -

a man who has mastered, in

the-casket position, and I

sers, a blue shirt, and a four-

director, 61; Lesley Garrett, soprano, 41; Adrian Renri.

all its delicate intricacy, the

I did not move, I did not

stir. I woke, as planned, with-out a wrinkle in my shirt,

trousers, or cheek, not a hair out of place . . . I don't ordi-

narily nap on a bed or on my back. As a napmaster, I fear

too much comfort and the consequent difficulty of pull-

sures of a too-deep sleep to go back into the world. I also

ing myself out of the plea-

wish to avoid rumpledness.

the toll that a nap on one's

back on a couch often takes

Most of my napping therefore

is done sitting up, on a couch, shoes off, with my feet resting

on a low footstool. Having

one's feet up is important. Most of my naps - and I

usually get, on the average.

three or four a week - take

place late in the afternoon, around 5 or 5.30, with the tele

vision news playing softly in

plagues, arson, pillaging, and

general corruption hum on, I

snooze away, a perfect symbol of the indifference of man in the modern age . . . Should the telephone ring while I am

the background. As the

reports of earthquakes,

art of the nap.

mer editor, ITN, 86; Patrick | rian. 90; Stan Mellor, race | Christopher Stoddart, Garland, theatre and film | horse trainer and former | managing director GMTV, jockey, 59; David Moor-Prof Alan Buckwell, agricultural economist. 49: Sir poet. 64: Gloria Hunniford. Anthony Cleaver, chairman. United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority. Sir Geoffrey Cox, for Prof Kathleen Major, historian, French States Max von Sydow, actor, 67: Harry Weblin, former 58: Sir Geoffrey Cox, for Prof Kathleen Major, historian Constitutive MEP, 48: Paul Theroux, author, 55; Norman MeP, 63: Maurice Schumann, French states Max von Sydow, actor, 67: Harry Weblin, former fig. actor, bridge player, 64: Chairman, Liberty's, 66.

46: Tom Spencer, Conserva-tive MEP, 48: Paul Theroux, author, 55; Norman Vaughan, comedian, 71;

new and it was the spring-time of a place which had yet to be called cyber-anything. Two flesh-and-blood lovers

came to me first . . . Both from

New York, both eventually coming to Dallas to visit. In

retrospect, I'm surprised I didn't stop after the first face

meeting. The poor girl was nothing like the fantasies of

didn't look that much like the photo she had sent, either. I

was greatly disappointed in the reality. A few months

later I met the second. She was more attractive in per-son than I had thought she

would be. The lesson, I sup-

pose, is that you never really know what the other end of

an online relationship is like

until you can see, touch, feel and smell them. A good on-

line friend told me to remem-

ber three key points about on-line relationships:

1. They develop very, very

2. They are inside out

quickly — and often end just as suddenly.

relationships - your first im-

pressions are based on what

the other says, thinks and

her that I had constructed from our screen time. She

Principled . . . Chris Seward

feels rather than the color of their eyes, the size of their waist, or the kinds of clothes

they wear. 3. They are often based on how well the other person types rather than the character and stature of the individ-ual — fast, nimble fingers often come across as greater wit and wisdom when your monitor is your only vantage

point. On-line sex, a user's guide, from Papa Joe's Dweebspeak Primer, an electronic journal produced by Joe Barr (jbarr@i

Big whimper

Q. IS MANKIND heading ineluctably toward disaster? A. I think we are going through a difficult time. I feel the same way I did in Britain before World War II. Everyone knew that there was going to be a war. But you didn't stop living or enjoying yourself because of it. And when it happened, everyone pulled together and did their best to deal with it. Q. World War II produced millions of deaths.

go through that again. Q. In what form will the cataclysm come? A. I think it will have less to do with our activity and more to do with our sheer num-

bers. Every two or three cen-turies there is a volcanic eruption so big that it fouls up the atmosphere for a couple of years. There are just no harvests. According to current estimates, the world's grain stocks are only 45 days.



Yet in a global perspective, these are rather normal occurrences, like a common cold in a person. And they are the most convincing argument against overpopulation that I can formulate. Geophysicist and Gaia theorist James Lovelock, interviewed in

Sore lips I KNEW I had a problem when a friend who I hardly

ner when I was going to apply my Chapstick. It was a force of habit to always put it on after each meal. In the short span of a weekend, she noticed my addiction easier than I could! I used lip bolm than I could! I used lip balm dozens of times a day: after I brushed my teeth, after eating, after blowing my nose, before and after sex. When I ran out, it was insanity until I got some new stuff. I would buy the cheap off-brands when I had to, but I never lost the craving for Cherry Chap-stick. A couple times, I tried to stop. But the pain was unbearable. I was weak. I gave A. It did. And we may have to No big bang . . . Newsweek in to the pain and used again

and again. I started Lin Balm Anonymous when I saw friends give up caffeine and alcohol. I knew there had to beaway...

I've all but given up denying my addiction. I have those little barrels of Blistex hidden away everywhere. There's one in my car, one at my bedside, one on the dresser and one in my desk drawer at work. I also have a small container that fits into the watch pocket in my jeans that I take with me whenever I know that I'll be away from my other stashes for longer than a few hours — when I go out to a club for dancing or a show . . . More testimony from the Lip Balm Dependents newsgroup on the Internet (http://users.aon.com/LipBalmA), More addict's confessions tomorrow.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. Email juckdow@guardian-.co.uk: fax 0171-713 4366: Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farmugdon Road, London ECIR SER.

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Wismoves closer to

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ADSE Economics

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Link-up would create world's second biggest financial institution but 15,000 jobs could be at risk

Swiss banks in merger talks Potential partners must be fair game

Mark Milner, Paul Murphy and Patrick Concern

Union Bank of Switzerland will tomorrow discuss
a possible merger
with CS Holding — parent of
Credit Suisse — which would create the world's second largest bank with assets of more than £430 billion.

Last night the two compa-nies confirmed that talks had already taken place between the outgoing UBS chairman, Nikolaus Senn, and CS Holding's Rainer Gut last week

UBS

NION BANK of Switzer-land, one of the big three of Swise banking, is also one of Europe's largest banks and

had assets at the beginning of

last year amounting to SFr326 billion (£180 billion),

writes Roger Couce.
The bank has concentrated

overseas expansion on whole-

sale banking and bought into

London in advance of the market's Big Bang when it

began the acquisition of lead-ing stockbroker Phillips &

Drew. The London firm was

Zurich revealed that the approach would be discussed at a board meeting tomorrow.

"The board of directors will the total at more than 15,000. discuss the idea of entering into discussions with CS

Holding." She added that the approach had come from CS Holding and that no concrete proposals had been tabled. CS Holding, which revealed the talks after a report in a Swiss newspaper, said: "In view of the current environment, CS Holding continues to be of the current environment, CS Holding continues to be of the opinion that the matter in question is impor-tant and should be debated."

The merger of two of Switg's Rainer Gut last week. zerland's big three banks — A spokeswoman for UBS in the third is Swiss Bank Cor-

pronged strategy of building its Swiss base while also at-

mpting to expand its inter-

national investment and mer-chant banking operation. But

the strategy has always been associated with independence

- the bank has never ac-

knowledged the need to build

its capital base through

merger.

Domestic expansion was fo-

cused firmly on financial services, and UBS has made

great inroads in the credit card market with the launch

The group is organised

around four core divisions:

corporate and institutional

of its Eurocard in 1991.

the advantages of a merger, in an industry where size and global reach are seen as in-

creasingly important.

A merger would put the two Swiss banks second only in terms of assets to the combi-nation of Japan's Bank of Tokyo and Mitsubishi Bank which announced their own Last night CS Holding said that Mr Gut had argued that

"the challenges thrown up by the globalisation of financial services and the continuing

foreign exchange and com-modifies; and asset manage

management arm PDFM is a

significant and aggressive.

fund manager, with a policy of taking substantial but

For several years the bank

has had a running fight with leading shareholder Martin

Ebner, who has harried the

board following heavy losses

on a speculative investment. Last November he lost the

first round in a battle to pre-

vent UBS unifying its share

structure, but the bank has had to attempt to reach a

settlement in the hope of

avoiding a lengthy legal

ment in the UK, the ass

risky stakes.

UBS has embraced a multi-financial market trading in ronged strategy of building securities, precious metals,

He is also said to have sug-gested that an alliance could help to resolve the current confrontation between UBS and one of its major shareholders, Martin Ebner, who plans to vote against the ap-pointment of Robert Studer as the new chairman of UBS. However, CS Holding de-nied a Swiss newspaper report that it made its sup-

port for UBS in its struggle against Mr Ebner conditional on boardroom backing for the

Credit Suisse

T IS bigger than either Barclays or NatWest and

its branches are spread

across the world from Tokyo to Los Angeles to Cairo. It is also, perhaps

belying the popular image of a sleepy monolithic Swiss bank, no stranger to mergers and change, urites Pauline Springet

Credit Suisse was established in 1856 and became the flagship bank of the CS Holding financial services group in 1989. In 1994—the last published figures—the bank had assets of £196 mil-

restructuring process within UBS board will come to a Switzerland's hanking industry demanded far-sighted meeting in Zurich. However, thing of an edge in terms of head next week at the annual meeting in Zurich. However, shareholders will not be able to vote on the merger proto vote on the merger pro-posal, according to the bank's

spokeswoman, because it Any merger between the two Swiss banking giants would mean the amalgamation of two of the most powerful players in London's fl-nancial markets,

Last night, a UBS director insisted that while there would be some natural over-lap, automatic job losses

swoop was a bold move. At the time Credit Suisse was

languishing behind its arch rivals Union Bank of Switi-

erland and Swiss Bank

Corporation in the retail areas of deposits, mortgages

and consumer lending.

Buying SV was a gamble. It had been badly hit by crumbling property loans. Under the drive of chief executive Josef Ackermann, the country loans to the country loans.

the move appears to be working. The cost savings have already been substan-tial and the bank has been

making chirpy noises about

having revamped the struc-

"But when it comes to equi

ties — across Europe, not just London — we are in a differ ent league. Credit Suisse does not carry our clout, certainly with UK institutions."

He said the trend towards bigger and stronger invest-ment banks worldwide was well established. "All the talk is about just a dozen or so global players emerging over the next few years. There is a

would be limited. 'We are both very strong in race to be a member of this Mr Ebner's clash with the the bond markets generally, premier league."

Switzerland's largest bank, the closure of around 60 SV Swiss Volkesbank. The SV and Credit Suisse branches.

Last year Credit Suisse also acquired a large regional bank, Neue Aar-gauer Bank. It also combined its US and Canadian operations under a management based in New York in an attempt to cut costs.

The UK banking sector is probably most familiar with Credit Suisse through its investment banking arm, CS First Boston. This was created in 1988 when it merged its international investment bank with the US First Boston.

It all adds up to an agressive bank which is not afraid to reinvent itself but which also enjoys a reputa-

Edited by Alex Brummer

OMORROW the 18 men and two women who make up the board of Union Bank of Switzerland will sit down to decide whether or not to change the course of history. They will consider what was previously regarded as unthinkable — a merger with another of Switzerland's big three banks. Credit Suisse.

superbank is about to burst upon the scene. UBS was stressing last night that it is considering only the idea of a mergar, not the terms on which it might be achieved. The problems of putting two of the big three Swiss players together look horrendous. Regulators would have a field day, while the clash of cul-tures — decentralised at CS. reportedly near regimental at UBS — would require near-miraculous diplomatic skills to sort out. Trickier certainly than Switzerland's mega-

chemicals merger between Ciba and Sandoz. Nonetheless, both banks have global ambitions. Sepa-rately they are having to build on a narrow domestic base; in combination they might have a much stronger platform from which to expand as well as being able to share the costs of playing on the world stage. Certainly it would mean heavy job losses
- 15,000 on some estimates. The City might have to take some of that burden, though insiders say there is remark-

vestment banking operations. If the merger does go ahead. it will raise questions about the future of the last of the Swiss triumvirate, Swiss Bank Corporation. If UBS and CS see the merits of a merger, can SBC survive alone? Even if there is no Swiss-made merger, others will now see the three banks as potential partners. As they say in another context: Game on.

ably little overlap between

Housing hope

HE economic optimism on which the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, is counting to reverse Conserva-tive fortunes at the Tamworth proving something of a chi-mera. Despite recent interest rate cuts and the tax reductions soon to arrive, the economy remains in the doldrums. Dull export markets in Europe, which is going through a growth pause, are hampering industrial produc-tion, while the long-awaited upsurge in the retail sector, normally expected at this stage of the economic cycle, is proving remarkably elusive. On the industrial front, the February figures are a clear disappointment. Over the last

When the energy sector is stripped out, manufacturing — the key to the UK's recovery — is showing distinct recessionary signs.

It was the retail sector that

was meant to step in this spring to save the day. That too is looking rocky, according to the CBI Distributive Trades Survey. It shows that, while retail sales did increase in March (compared to last year), the overall picture is not that positive.

Indeed, the more reliable three-month on three-month figures show that sales slowed for the first time since September. This might partly explain why so many retailers have plunged into spring sales so soon after their last splurge in January. The UK shows signs of adopt ing the American practice of near-permanant sales.
If there is any joy to be

gleaned from the retail sector, it comes from those parts which have been weakest during this recovery - those relating to the housing market, such as hardware, china and DIY shops. With the Nationwide relentlessy taking to pursue cheaper home loans it cut its mortgage rate yesterday by 0.25 points to 6.74 per cent — an end-ofcycle housing boom may prove to be the only answer to the Chancellor's prayers.

Lloyd's promise

N MANY respects. Lloyd's of London has been patient to a fault in seeking to reach an amicable settlement with the Names, which would ease the !!nancial difficulties of the investors but ensure the survival of the market. Today, 11 months after the Council first came up with its £2.8 billion proposal, it will come back with what amounts to its final offer, a

Some of the Names will no doubt argue that this has taken too long and remains inadequate given the hard-ship they have been put through. But the Names also need to realise that Lloyd's is having to beg and borrow to raise the extra money. The best predictions are that the brokers will chip in an extra £100 million, the auditors some of whom have lost legal actions) a further £100 million and that the figure from the agencies could perhaps be

However, in order to reach the £3 billion figure Lloyd's may have to go to the market with a syndicated loan which will leave the market with an

ing into the future.
The Names would no doubt argue that it is not their concern if the future of the market is put into jeopardy, given the failure of the Council in the past to police matters properly. Maybe. But Lloyd's is now going the extra mile and there is no harm in Names being reminded of their original agreement to unlimited liability. Investors were not putting their cash in the building society: for better or worse the new offer should be accepted.

news that the highly regarded

Mr Anderson was going. Commenting on Mr Ander-

son's departure, Mr Turcan insisted that there had been

"no impropriety whatso-ever", and said the news was

not a reflection on the compa-

should part company. We're

mud, and clearly nobody takes any pleasure in this sort

Mr Turcan said he under-

However, sources close to

the company suggested that

Mr Anderson's relationship

with Mr Turcan had been at the heart of the dispute.

to remember is that this is a

One said: "What you have

stood he had no new job lined

"We jointly agreed that we

ny's recent results.

up immediately.

eventually merged into UBS in 1989 to form the base of the banking, corporate finance bank's global investment (including takeovers and tra-**Britain** on the brink of a

new recession

Richard Thomas

Street sales have pushed the manufacturing sector to the brink of a fresh recession, figures published yesterday

Factory output - which accounts for a fifth of the UK economy — was 0.5 per cent lower in the three months to February than in the preceding quarter, according to the newly-formed Office of National Statistics (ONS).

The Treasury hopes that vigorous consumer spending will fuel growth even if industry fades, but today's latest snapshot of the High Street from the Confederation of British Industry shows the New Year retail mini-boom is running out of steam.

Sales in March were up on the same time a year ago, but the CBI warned that the underlying rate of improvement had slowed for the first time in six months.

City pundits, who were suprised by another month of

disappointing data, said firms were still running down plentiful stocks and suffering from empty export books. They arged interest rate cuts to kick-start the economy. Sunon Briscoe, chief econo-

"An increasingly strong case can now be put that the econback into recession. A UK rate cut is not imminent but, if the recovery fails to take hold rates will be cut."

The Chancellor's panel of economic advisers warned, however, against any further easing of monetary policy. In their half-yearly report, published yesterday, the experts said: "Most of us do not think that the next move in interest rates should necessarily be downwards. The authorities will face signs of an acceleration in growth through the year, which might suggest an eventual need to raise interest rates."

The CBI said its Distributive Trades Survey showed retailers' expectations of growth in March had proved to be too optimistic.

Trade was felt to be only slightly above average for the time of year and some retailers reported a downturn in sales. Their experience was offset by a marked pick-up in other areas, with hardware, china and DIY shops report-ing the greatest volume in-

creases on a year ago.

Associate director of economic analysis, Sudhir Junankar, said: "Retailers are confident that sales will pick up in April, although this will depend on a stronger trading mist at Nikko Europe, said: performance being achieved



bank had assets of £196 million, boosted by the acquisibrand image. The bad news

Chancellor on edge . . . Kenneth Clarke's experts warn against easing monetary policy

over the Raster period when compared with last year."

This optimism was February by 0.4 per cent, as reflected in an increase in the the cold snap sent supplies of February by 0.4 per cent, as number of orders placed with electricity and gas soaring counts for 80 per cent of insuppliers by retailers. ONS But on a three-month basis dustrial production, forced

dustrial output had risen in risen just 0.1 per cent.

Pebruary by 0.4 per cent, as The continued weakness of manufacturing, which ac-

officials said that overall in- | the index of production had | government statisticians to revise down their trend estimate of growth for the whole time since the end of the las

Benetton outlet calls in Lloyd's moves closer to an Abbey plans big pay rises in improved offer for Names

Pauline Springett

HE ruling council of the embattled Lloyd's of London insurance market is today expected to move significantly closer to agreeing details of an improved settle-ment offer for its loss-stricken Names.

The new-look deal, considered informally by council members last week is ex-pected to top £3 billion. That would be an increase of more than £200 million on the deal on the table, but may still be too little to satisfy the Names. Rebel Names have been pushing for at least an extra ci hillion.

If the deal is rejected in May, the market could collapse. Lloyd's has therefore been been working feverishly for nearly a year to drum up more contributions from auditors, agents and brokers. They are being asked be-cause all have benefited in the past from Lloyd's existence and can expect to do so in the future if it survives. If the Names accept the offer,

they will have to stop suing

the contributors over losses.

been expected to pay around £200 million, but Lloyd's has been trying to persuade them to increase this amount. The auditors and brokers are understood to have offered around £100 million each. Lloyd's is also believed to be trying to raise several million pounds from a syndicated bank loan.

Meanwhile, Lloyd's moved swiftly yesterday to quash reports that Lioncover would not, after all, be reinsured into Equitas. Equitas is the proposed insurance company being set up to take over Lloyd's old liabilities. It will be ring-fenced from the on-going Lloyd's market.

Lioncover is the company which Lloyd's set up in 1987 to take on the liabilities of the PCW syndicates which collapsed as a result of fraud in the early 1980s.

A Lloyd's spokesman sald it had always been the intention to reinsure Lioncover into Equitas and this had not

The latest set of published Lioncover figures, contained in last year's set of Lloyd's accounts. show its possible losses total more than The agents have always 2700 million.

the boardroom

ABBEY National is paving the way for big boardroom pay rises by increasing its non-executive directors' salary ceiling to £750,000, according to the bank's annual

report, writes Ian King.
Payments to the chairman and non-executive directors are currently capped at £500,000, according to the company's six-year-old articles of association. But the combined salaries

of chairman Lord Tugendhat - whose package has risen from £242,393 to £263,762 over the past 12 months — and the bank's non-executive directors is fast approaching that

limit The report also drops a National will have to pay extra bonuses to directors in March next year, under the terms of a "three-year discre-tionary bonus scheme", first established in 1994.

Meanwhile, British Aero-space has announced details of its long-term incentive scheme for directors, which will see free shares, to the value of 60 per cent of salary, paid into a plan each year.

receivers after big loss A licensee for the texture of the High Street and the company, set up to the texture of the High Street and the company, set up to the texture of the High Street and the company, set up to the company, set

is £400,000 in the red, says IAN KING

NE of the leading British licensees for Benetton, the Italian-owned international fashion chain, has called in the receivers after poor trading sent it into the red. Halcyon Retail, which

owns eight Benetton licences at prestigious locations including Milton broad hint that Abbey Keynes, Islington, Canary Wharf, Croydon and Brent Cross, appointed receivers at the accountants Grant Thornton after running up full-year losses of £400,000 on sales of £3.7 million.

The stores all trade under the name "United Colours of Benetton" and sell Benetton-branded clothes. The receivers said Halcyon, which is run and primarily owned by Robert | ties with one or two stores.

continued into the current trading year. Sources close to Benetton

said last night that the company's London agent, Paulo Panizzo, was trying to bro-ker a deal which could in-volve Halcyon's stores being sold to other Benet-Meanwhile, Scott Barnes,

head of corporate recovery at Grant Thornton, said the stores would continue to trade as usual. He added: "Despite the losses, we believe there is likely to be interest in purchasing at least some of these

Insiders soggested that Mr Jenkins's management style might have been responsible for its problems. not least that the group had run a head office far larger than the business required. One said that although Halcyon had faced difficulways been in trouble. He added: "The business has not been well controlled. Set-up costs have not been recouped, he couldn't cover overhead costs, and there

were also problems with the sales mix." Benetton, which was founded in 1965 by Luciano Benetton, operates 120 stores in Britain, nearly all run by licensees, and 7.000 stores worldwide.

In recent years the com-pany has been racked by problems, from outrage at a series of "offensive" bill-board advertisements the latest, showing three human hearts, has just been banned from London's Underground — to com plaints over the family's

continued ownership. In addition, there has been unrest among Benetton's institutional investors in America, where the shares have fallen sharply since partial flotation.

Harrisons' finance director walks out 'after dispute'

Lan JUng ARRISONS & Crosfield. erate which started life as a colonial tea trader, parted company yesterday with its finance director, Martin Anderson, after what well-placed

boardroom row. Harrisons, whose activities include animal feeds. palm oil, building supplies and chemicals, would say only that Mr Anderson had

sources suggested was a

But sources close to the company pointed to Mr Anderson's relationship with the chief executive. Bill Turcan. who was finance director before Mr Anderson's appointment in May 1994 from Hill Samuel merchant bankers Harrisons' shares skidded

9p to 148p — after earlier hitting a year's low of 143p -- on

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS Austratia 18825
Austria 15.32
Belgium 45.00
Canada 2.025
Cyprus 0.70
Denmark 8.52
France 7.46
Germany 2.1
Greece 359.5
Include 32.16
Ireland 0 s42 Ireland û s425 Finland 7.03

typical small conglomerate's headquarters, and at the cenon. They didn't."

Neiher 2003 2 4550 Spain 183 50 New Zealand 2 1775 Sweden 10 05 Norway 9.57 Switzerland 1.762 Portugal 227.25 Turkey 99,900 8audi Arabia 5.70 USA 1.4950

ke garnit

SIMON BEAVIS and CHRIS BARRIE ask how the privatised utilities would be regulated More elbow into private power

T WAS always a safe bet that the privatised utili-ties would end up offering shareholders huge payouts. But few predicted that Labour would collect most of the political dividends.

The utilities have been a minefield for John Major, and thanks to them he can no longer brandish the privatisation torch as his predecessor did. Because of the utilities the flame has been snuffed out, leaving Labour free to make huge and easy capital.

The party's message has been simple. The utilities have provided a feeding ground for fat cats and share-holders: consumers have suffered from lax regulation; heavy economic and human toll. Public confidence is at an all-time low

This is safe ground for the Opposition. The irony is that Labour has been highly reticent in setting out its policy stall. As with the rest of its industrial policies, Labour has chosen the Industry Forum -- a loose collection of ad hoc groups covering key policy areas - to kick around its ideas.

Here corporations such as Thames Water, Hanson, National Power and Power-Gen and British Gas mingle with academics and Labour Party officials. Trade unions are conspicuous by their absence — they have to find other ways into the policymaking process. The curious cast of characters fluttering around Labour is a mark of the fundamental change that has gripped the party.

There are six working par ties in all, each conducting a process of public consultation in semi-private. Individual party spokesmen on industry are overseeing investigations into key areas — for regula-tion the energy spokesman, John Battle, is in the driving seat - under the ultimate eye of the shadow trade secretary. Margaret Beckett.

Each will draw up a draft policy document by the end of this month and feed it into Labour's joint consultative committee. a sub-division of the National Executive. The trade and industry policy drive here is steered by Robin Cook, now foreign affairs spokesman but Mrs Beckett's

predecessor twice removed.
The committee's job will be to formalise the drafts and deliver a full industry document which will be sent this summer to all party members for the autumn party conference. It will then filter into the elec-

It is a Byzantine process but it has the benefit of being thorough. With Robin Cook part of the process, it allows the modernising drive to be tempered by scepticism.

To the relief of privatised

firms themselves, Labour has proved willing to listen to their case. But critics — both on the left of the party and outside — fear that in the early stages Labour has fallen into a double trap. They claim the party is too wary of expen-sive hostages to fortune and has given far too much

ground to the industry.
"Companies are moving to get into a favourable position with an incoming government. You have arch-capitalists supporting the party's reviews, at which academics jostle to be the next regulator. It is facile," said one critic. There is a lot of jostling for position rather than making real policy statements."

Another points to the experience of the Clinton adminis-



A minefield for Major . . . but the trick for Labour is to help consumers without crippling the energy and water companies

for Blair modernisers. A similar effort across the Atlantic to embrace commerce ended up by building bridges but at the expense of radicalism. Companies used their privilege to slow down change.
Mr Battle denies that

Labour is being unduly cau-tious. He argues that the energy sector is evolving quickly, with full competition due in 1998 and consumers about to

consultation before going to cause the whole energy scene United States. is moving so fast " he said. He stressed a gradualist ap-

idea is to build consensus and use that as the foundation stone for a new policy structure. At this stage the bare bones are in place but remain open to change.

Labour intends to move to a

sliding-scale form of regulation, where companies exceeding profit levels are forced to share the excess between customers and sharebe deluged with an array of holders equitably. This sysnew sales and marketing tem maintains some of the ploys. The party needs to incentives of the current, remain flexible. "We can't put policy on to linked approach without leap-tablets of stone. It'll be out of date the following day be-

The party wants to depersonalise the regulation pro- Mike Jeram, head of utilities proach. "The idea is not to cess, firstly by merging some at the public services union costly overseas ventures. But chuck the whole lot out and regulators, such as the elect Unison. chuck the whole lot out and regulators, such as the electric loss of punishing the companies.

Chuck the whole lot out and regulators, such as the electric loss of punishing the companies.

reformist model." Labour's | Ofgas. Instead of individuals in the regulatory chair. Labour favours creating a panel of experts. Mr Battle stresses the need for a more anonymous outfit. He cites the conciliation service Acas

as a role model. He does not mention another benefit. The changes could require new legislation which would allow Labour to clear out weak regulators. On the surface it sounds

radical enough. But the trade unions are unimpressed "From the employees' point of view, after all the damage we've suffered from privatisa tion, something more than just tinkering with the formala is warranted." said

Regulation had to bring benefits for the consumer without penalising the comprocess must go further. Labour wants to ensure that where the utility regulators pany unduly. Mr Griffiths said. At the moment regula-tion has forced the utilities fail, for reasons of insufficient resources or expertise, the Monopolies Commission and the Office of Fair Trading will into a "limbo dance". All that have extra powers to investi-gate. The problem, he says, is counted for them was cutting costs, because that was what counted for the regulator. twofold: curbing market

"We are looking at a more subtle form of regulation that allows consumers to benefit from lower prices without crippling the business." he

Labour's armoury is the threat of imposing a multi-billion-pound windfall tax on utilities. This looks radical nd is truly interventionist But, in reality, the party is divided on how effective it would be, since collecting it would be complex. The trick is to make the threat real enough to force companies to

embrace change. Sceptics will not be encouraged to know that the City has already decided that Labour lacks the will-power to impose the tax and that, even if it does, the rate would not be punitive.

News in brief

700 UK staff to go

as US banks merge
THE total number of British jobs losses resulting from the Wall
Street merger of Chase Manhattan and Chemical Bank looks set
to top 700, if emerged yesterday.
Around 200 staff have already left. The cuts, significantly
granter than unions had expected, result from the £6.5 billion
deal which formally came into place yesterday.
Industry sources expect most losses to come from foreign
exchange and treasury dealing operations.—Patrick Donoran

1,000 new jobs at Welsh park UP TO 1,000 jobs will be created in the next 12 months by an international consortium developing a 250 million multi-media park in Wales.

The park is based around a station set up to receive satellite

signals and offering an international telecoms gateway. The consortium includes Orion Network Systems. Cable Tel South Wales, the utility company Hyder, Christiani & Nielsen, and cable firm TCI Corporation. Located in Carditi Bay, the 3bacre site is backed by the Welsh Development Agency and should attract high rechnology companies. Backers hope that up to 3,300 lobs could be created in five years by multi-media, financial services and call centre companies. — Chris Barrie

Ferguson in £31.5m regroup

FERGUSON International, the conglomerate which specialises in clothes hangers and labels and which last year issued two profits

warnings, yesterday amounced the sale of its hangers and com-munications components businesses for £31.5 million Ferguson said the hangers group, excluding the Morplan com-pany, would be sold to rival Mauna, while the communications components business would go to a private buyer, HTVC Holdings. Ferguson, which until last year was based in Appleby Castle, Cumbria, also announced that it was buying Label larage, a

Welsh label manufacturer, for £5.25 million.

Shares of Ferguson, which also predicted full-year, pre-tax profits of £11.5 million, closed up 18p at 210p. — Ian King

Dewhirst gains crisp £22.3m

SUCCESS in selling easy-to-iron shirts through Marks & Spencer, helped clothing supplier Dewhirst to a 30 per cent gain in pre-tiox profits to \$22.3 million during the year to mid-January. This has profits to \$22.3 million during the year to min-sanuary. This has made room for a rise in the payout of more than a third, with a final 2.6p making 3.6p for the year, payable on July 1. The profits came on turnover up 13 per cent at £279 million.

Dewhirst's "non-iron" fabric technology is now being used on

men's trousers. The group manufactures in Cardigan and Swansen in Wales, but is continuing to invest in plant abroad; one factory in Morocco nears completion and another in the Far East is planned over the coming year. — Paul Murphy

BT price controls debate

THE first of a series of public hearings on Oftel's proposed price controls for British Telecom is due to take place at the Senate House of London University on April 17, the telecom watchdog said pesterday. Further hearings will take place in Glasgow, Cardiff, Birmingham and Belfast.

BT is being forced to reduce its main retail prices by inflation minus 7.5 per cent. Don Cruickshank, the director general of Offel is proposing that the limit for the 1997 to 2001 price review period tween inflation minus 5 per cent and inflation minus 9 per cent. He also proposes to cap the prices which BT charges other telecom operators for the use of its network. — Nicholas

BET attacks Rentokil record

BET, the embattled services group fighting off a hostile 21.9 billion bid from rival Rentokil, yesterday attacked its predator's recent trading. BET, which is this week making a last-ditch series of presentations to City institutions, said Rentokil's report and accounts, which were published over the weekend, showed how "desperately" Rentokil needed it.

Chief premitive lobe Clark poid: "The class form showed by the

Chief executive John Clark said: "The slowdown showed by the report and accounts vindicates our view that this ill-conceived offer is a desperate attempt by Rentokil to use BET's superior

growth to maintain its own targets."

Most analysts expect Rentokil — which must increase the terms of its offer by Friday — to offer BET shareholders between 10-15p a share more. Last night, Rentokil shares closed down top at 368p, valuing BET shares at 20415p, against last night's close 308p. — lon King

Nissan boss takes back seat

THE president of Japan's second biggest car company. Nissan, is stepping down in an attempt to revive the group's effort to restructure in the face of a slump in export demand. Yoshifumi Tsuji had laid the groundwork for Nissun's recovery by checking the decline in the group's performance. But he admitted the firm's economic recovery was not yet "real". Last year Nissan returned to the black for the first time in four years. Mr Tsuji will be replaced in July by Yoshikazu Hanawa, vice-president for research and development. — Chris Barrie

Late payers signal party's dilemma

Celia Weston Enterprise Editor

WHEN Labour said last month that it supported smaller companies having a legal right to charge interest to late pay-ers, the announcement was the culmination of months of meetings and consulta-tions. Unfortunately, the policy does not command a consensus even among the organisations dedicated to representing the interests

warned the party it was out of step with small business opinion and that such a policy would backfire on smaller firms. Only the tiny, but influential, Forum of Private Business sup-

ported the policy. Herein lies Labour's dilemma. It has abandoned the traditional adversarial approach to creating an in-dustrial policy — when anything business, big or of small- and medium-sized small, wanted was change views as part of the hegotiat danger is the commerce, the largest of these, said the policy showed that Labour failed achieving consensus. But organised under the austral was change views as part of the hegotiate danger is the hegotiate dange

proposals on late payment of commercial debt means that further consultations must now take place. Meanwhile, the remainder of the party's industrial policy must also be sorted out. Later this month a "Business and Labour" conference will be attended by Labour's treasury and trade and industry teams, offering business leaders the opportunity to ex-

to understand supply-chain around whose agenda pices of The Industry relationships. The Confederation of British Industry The hostility to Labour's pivotal role in Labour's consultations. It has estab-lished taskforces, chaired frontbenchers, to develop policy on competitiveness. investment and productivity; innovation, design and research and development: regulation; competition; small business; and City/financial services.
But Labour's dilemma

create new monopolies; and

cracking down on market fail-

ures which allow the same

companies to cherry-pick the most valuable customers and

cast aside obligations to

Nigel Griffiths, consumer

affairs spokesman, is highly

critical of the utilities for fail-

ing to invest in infrastructure

while wasting billions on

remains. If it does not bring its own demands or ideas to the negotiating table the danger is that its policies will be merely an amalgam of others' ideas, to which it has added little new think

New digital Nokia. 100 hours of power!



Booming TV sales no warranty of profit

service contracts

pay for low margins on electrical goods. Roger Cowe reports

T IS easy to sell washing machines, TVs and computers, despite consumers lack of confidence and cash. But it is not easy to make money selling such electrical goods, as the recent an-nouncement of the sale of Norweb shops and the closure of chains such as Rumbelows has made clear.

An in-depth study of the electrical market, published yesterday by retail specialists Verdict Research, emphasises this curious state of affairs and highlights the volatile state of the market, which will see more closures and changes of ownership, as well as a continuing surge in sales, as new technology feeds

through to product markets. Verdict observes that technology generally races ahead of the ability of manufacturlonger possible to sell electri-cal goods profitably from the ers to keep up, and that is cur-rently true in the field of com-puting, communications and locations". High costs prevent

Outlook/Expensive | entertainment. The first at | the display of a full range, | out-of-town superstore sites, | tempt, last year, to capitalise | which consumers can now get | and whether prices will have tempt, last year, to capitalise on the convergence of these three fields with a PC-TV was a disappointing flop, but there will be more user-friendly products which will boost the

narket for consumer electri-

cal goods.

Not that the market has been stagnating. Contrary to the impression given by the withdrawal of Rumbelows and various privatised regional electricity companies (RECs), sales have been booming. The chart shows clearly that sales of electrical goods have not only grown strongly over the past four years, they have grown much

faster than other retail sales.
While High Street sales generally have edged down over the past couple of years, the increase in sales of electrical goods has accelerated, helped by new out-of-town super-stores and such new products as powerful home computers. High Street electrical shops seem dooned, just as surely as local butchers and greengrocers have been driven out of business by supermarkets. from superstores.
Despite the closures.

mainly centred around the retail chains of the RECs. Verdict reports total selling space has expanded, with new superstores more than offsetting the loss of space on the High Street.

Superstores now account trical sales, up from a fifth in 1992. But the real question is whether anybody can make money from selling TVs. washing machines and per-sonal computers, even from

to rise to gen profitability. Dixons, including its Currys superstores and PC World, has 17 per cent of the total market — three times its nearest rival Comet, which last year had just 5.4 per cent.

But even Dixons would struggle to make a profit on basic product sales, Verdict says. Like the rest of the industry, profits come mainly from product warranties. And those profits are under threat from two directions — the Office of Fair Trading and the

Computers lead electrical growth 3000 94

published two reports attack-ing warranty profits, and Ver-dict says the OFT is not in-clined to let the matter rest. But warranty profits are also under attack from a different direction, as banks such as First Direct eye the potential of entering this market.
The market will be boosted by new products capitalising

on the convergence of com-puting and entertainment But computers and computer software sell at lower profit margins than electrical shops are used to, so a higher pro portion of computer sales would lower overall margins even if sales were to grow. Even more closures seem inevitable. That would lead to greater concentration around Dixons, Comet and a possible combination of Norweb and Scottish Power's showrooms, although it is still possible that Norweb will be snapped up by Comet, or be bought out

by its management.

Bargains seem certain in continue, especially for cus-tomers who eschew the warranties. The worst news for shoppers would be a serious attack on warranty margins, since the lost profit would have to be offset by higher profit from product sales.

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Godolphin take gamble with Esteem

Chris Hawkins

ARK Of Esteem the Godolphin colt at the root of the split between Sheikh Mohammed and Henry Cecil, will be supplemented at a cost of £8,000 today for the Vodafone Epsom Derby on Saturday June 8. That will not be the final

instalment, however, as another £8,000 will be required on May 22 to keep the horse in the race, plus a further £1,750 at the final declaration stage. By far the cheapest way to have a runner is to enter him as a yearling for only £250 and pay intervening forfeits total-ling £5,500.

For this year's Derby there were 620 yearling entries, of in need of a trip."
which 150 have stood their Tomorrow is D-Day in ground.

The supplementary stage is a month later than last year in an attempt to ensure that the best horses get every chance. There was criticism last year that the early closing date was responsible for Pentire missing the race. As well as Mark Of Esteem.

the Racing Post Trophy winner Beauchamp King, trained by John Dunlop, will be sup-plemented and the Epsom exscutive contacted the connections of 30 horses thought to be possible late entries.
The final supplementary

figure may not be more than

is being entered to ensure that he has the option should he prove good enough.
"If you don't buy a ticket

you can't win the lottery," said Crisford yesterday. "At the moment we don't know whether he'll be good enough or whether he'll stay a mile and a half, but we should know a lot more after he's run in the 2,000 Guineas

at Newmarket."

Crisford was not encouraging about another of the possible Godolphin Derby colts, Mick's Love, who was bought out of Mark Johnston's stable after winning both his starts

last season.

"He'd have a mountain to climb if he's going to develop into a Derby colt," said Crisford. "He looks one-paced and in model of the books one-paced and

Dubai when the Godolphin horses have their time trials. Frankie Dettori flies out today to take part in this seri-ous work and the final list of the 40 horses expected to come here at the end of the

month will then be drawn up.
Crisford said that Halling, a
big disappointment in the
Dubai World Cup, will definitely be coming back to this country to contest the major mile and a quarter events. "We now think he's best on

turf," explained Crisford. "Al-though he has won four times on the sand at Nad Al Sheba he was only beating previous turf horses and after his failson before.

Simon Crisford, racing manager of Godolphin, emphasised that Mark Of Esteem sional dirt horses."

Alhaarth, hot favourite for the 2,000 Guineas, a preparatory outing in the Greenham Stakes at Newbury on Saturday week.

If the ground is small the ground is small dirt horses."



Take-off . . . Carnetto puts in a bold leap two out on the way to finishing second behind Erzadjan at Wetherby yesterday With Dettori jetting off to | but is an accomplished

Dick Hern has been talking about the possibility of giving Alhaarth, hot favourite for

have an unnecessarily hard

In the 1,000 Guineas, Henry Cecil's Bosra Sham hardened

Back on the Classic front, likely go to Newbury but he bout the possibility of giving lihaarth, hot favourite for he 2,000 Guineas, a preparative being worried that in these circumstances he might being worried that in the Crown with the Crown wi Bint Shadayid next best on 7-1 followed by A Votre Sante, Criquette Head's recent impressive Saint-Cloud winner, on 10's.

Dubai he will not be riding at Ripon this afternoon and may well miss out on a John Gosden double with Santillana (3.40) and Bakers' Gate (4.40). Les Eyre does not get the same sort of tackle as Gosden

Sport in brief

up for

RITAIN's Tim Henman fell at the first hurdle in the Indian Open in New Delhi. Denmark's Frederik Fetterlein overcame the No. 6 seed 1-6, 6-1, 8-0. Another Briton, Mark Petchey, was beaten 6-4. 6-4 by the top seed. Thomas Enquist.

Venus Williams, the 15-year-old American who has been touted as a future champion, retired with a hip injury in the ninth game of the first

in the ninth game of the first set in a first-round match against Germany's Veronika Martinek in the Bausch & Lomb Championships in Amelia Island, Florida. Williams and of the state of the set of th liams, ranked No. 197 in the world, was 3-5 adrift when she broke down.

Basketball

The Chicago Bulls lost their 44-game unbeaten home re-cord in the NBA when Dell Curry hit two free throws 19 seconds from the end to give the Charlotte Hornets a 98-97

Eguestrianism

Michael Whitaker will not compete in the World Cup final in Geneva next week after finishing 30th out of 40 starters on Magic Carpet in the final qualifier in Gothenburg.

Cycling

Tony Doyle, president of the British Cycling Federation. yesterday announced his resignation little more than two weeks after surviving an attrainer and has his horses in cracking form at the moment. tempt by the directors to oust him after allegations of dis-honesty and conflict of inter-I am hoping his Goodbye Millie (2.40), who has useful form in claimers, will prove the point by landing the nap in the Markington Selling ests. Doyle claimed yesterday that he had been forced to resign because of "mounting legal bills".

Worcester eight-race National Hunt card

5.00 Dawn Leader

5.30 Keep it Zipped (nb)

2.00 голивных рышка плина сърза 13(35) - BEAUFAN (7)(25) (CD) B Cambudge B-12-0 45(32) BALLZAN (7) (D) A Campi 11-11-7 35(39) LAWISSHOOD JUNION (11) J Spatring 9-1 3-0000 OWENS DEJUNT (18) P Weymans 5-11-7 04(97) STATELY HOME (11) (MF) P Briven 5-11-7 0 F4711.0- CROOKED COUNCE (371) G Fisms 10-11-0 64-663 Heat POST (21) G Hzm 7-11-0 560-900 MALLASTANG (2006) R Sespect 8-11-0 S Correct # D Marwellh Mr Q Should

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11 PATSCHLA (#) P Octon 5-10-6

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0-52-1 SLAN WYN (284) (#) K News 6-10-6

0-0-90 SISTER ELLY (41) T Wan 6-10-5

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5-5 FLIPPAINCS (37) (83) N Gaschie 6-11-2

000-0 MARKOS WIZARDO (2) S Sarie 5-11-2

000-0 MARKOS WIZARDO (2) S Sarie 5-11-2

D-ST SHITTON STREAM (72) G Yardiny 6-11-2

23 VOURET TERMEN SWIN (38) D NICHOSON 5-11-2

23 VOURET TERMEN SWIN (38) D NICHOSON 5-11-2

000 MARZOUE BRANKE (26) P Debro 6-10-11

G PRINTTON POPPY (700) W Care 5-10-11

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Pris FLREST TRIFT (19) U Wester 10-11-3

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SUPER GOSSIP (10) D Promens 8-11-3

CS-57C) JARRONAN (22) J Sperimg 8-10-12

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34507 TOUR LEADER (89) (9) R Stable 7-10-2

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34508 ROYAL PURR (7) A Window 8-10-0

35-607 SKEDUCK (42) P Wichow 8-10-0

37-707 RADIO CAROMER (12) P Table 8-10-0

47-707 RADIO CAROMER (12) P Table 8-10-0 W Maraton
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 RIPON 2 to Bold African; 2 48 Gymerak Hero; 4.10 Boweliffe, WORCESTER 2.00 Entusts mon. Brass Tooks, Mallastang; 3.30 Victor Bravo.

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CALLING THE TUBE M Bernsclough 5-11-1 ...

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140 SHACEPORN (15) Mrs P Sty 5-11-1

151 CHARTER (15) Mrs P Sty 5-11-1

152 CHARTER COUNTRY (16) S -11-1

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PARTO OMESIS Graham Rockets 5-10-10
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Tharks, 9-3 Usering Conductor, 5-1 Carry The Co L Hervey
P Hide
C Llevellys
O F Ryan (5)
R Farrist
R Davis

• Jimmy FitzGerald sends Uncle Ernie to Fairyhouse today to contest the IR £20,000-added Oliver Freaney and Co D Moore Handicap Chase over two miles. Mark Dwyer's mount, third in the Mortall Airthur Handicap Chase. moore Handicap Chase over two miles. Mark Dwyer's mount, third in the Martell Aintree Handicap Chase on Grand National day, faces five rivals, most notably Doonandoras who has won two of his three starts to date this term.

Ripon with guide to the late

2.10 Bold African 2.40 QOODBYE MILLIE (1869) 4.10 Quist 4.40 %

2.10 SEF SPA WELTER BANDEN STAKES 240 M CLASS SOLD AFFECAN P Evens 9-0 PRINCE OF PARKES J Barry I

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203 203-10 GOODSYE MILLE (6) (3) J 5yre 5-8-8
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206 2000-0 KERCKHER (200) (2) R Fisher 5-9-7
207 2029- HERO HERO (142) G Fisher 5-9-7
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217 2050-3 BOLD TOP (11) R ROTHER (4-9-1)
218 2050-3 BOLD TOP (11) D ROTHER (13) B BOLD (13)
218 2050-4 SYLVAR GELERRATOR (7) GOODS (156) 8-7-10
218 2050-4 SYLVAR GELERRATOR (7) GOODS (156) 8-7-10
219 2050-5 SYLVAR GELERRATOR (7) GOODS (156) 8-7-10
210 2000-1 EXCUS (15-5) R WINNERS 8-6-5
217 2050-5 SYLVAR GELERRATOR (7) GOODS (156) 8-7-10
218 2050-5 SYLVAR GELERRATOR (7) GOODS (156) 8-7-10
219 2000-1 EXCUS (15-1) BOLD (15-1) BOLD

PORMI OURDS: - BOLD PURSUITS Lad over 11 cat, driven out, bi Never Tirce 28, with BOLD TOP (rec 26) section 15) every 3rd, CAN SHE CAN CAN (rec 26) hurter 38 5h and ADALDALDO (give 36) 6h of 12 (Severiny tank, 60) (Severiny tank, 60) GOODSTY BILLLIE Pushed miong, never dangerous, 8th of 13, 15) belong Kilernen (Museuburgh 1m4, Gef). WATCUS MEE QOS in Laucht, harepaired over 21 cms, stayed ow, 2nd of 13, 5% bid Total Rach (Lingfield Im21 Stay).

3-1 O FOURTABLE HANDSCAP of CS,716

201 DESGO- LESMOX LEWIS (174) (C) DD A Jarvis 4-10-0 ... K Hepides (7) 20

202 3272-0 AL REET (120) (C) M Hammond 5-0-1 ... B Osciegae 8

203 16500-1 CASTLEREA LAD (19) (C) R Holinsheed 7-0-4 ... R Daring 7

204 5000-1 CASTLEREA LAD (19) (C) R Holinsheed 7-0-4 ... R Part 18

205 202-1 HIMOHOURI (19) (D) P Frigue 7-0-4 ... W Ryon 34

207 2000-6 FIREM (18) (D) (S) M Johnson 4-9-1 ... I Vesser 11

207 2000-6 FIREM (18) (D) (S) M Johnson 4-9-1 ... I Vesser 11

208 20155-0 PORTPEN (18) (D) S Bouring 4-9-1 ... I Vesser 11

209 20155-0 PORTPEN (18) (D) S Bouring 4-9-1 ... I Vesser 11

209 20155-0 PORTPEN (18) (D) (S) M Dods 4-9-1 ... I Vesser (S) S

200 ESSOO-PALACIDANT TOUCH (1923) (CD) J Boury 5-0-13 ... J Carrell Edy

211 2010-0 BERZOB (15) (D) Wh. J. Remarks 6-0-0 ... K Falson 6

212 1012-4 THE SCYTHAR (19) (D) (S) M Johnson 4-8-8 ... M Willed 1

213 1012-4 THE SCYTHAR (19) (D) (S) M VESSER (19) J B M S Find 4-11 ... W Vesdo 2 N A SING 18

214 2020-0 BERZOB (15) (D) (S) J Brackey 1-8-8 ... M Sirch 18

215 230-0 THE PROOF (S) (Sin ac) P Harris 4-8-8 ... M Miles 1

216 4-1511 SUPPR BERZ (14) (D) (SP) J Brackey 1-8-5 ... S Drovana (2) 4

217 1125-0 AMORDYNE (19) N Michals 5-7-13 ... J Ponding 13

218 5000-0 HEZARA (11) (D) M KICHS 5-7-13 ... J Ponding 13

229 0000-0 HEZARA (11) (D) M KICHS 5-7-13 ... J Ponding 13

220 0000-0 HEZARA (11) (D) M KICHS 5-7-13 ... J Ponding 13

221 2000-0 HEZARA (11) (D) M KICHS 5-7-13 ... J Ponding 13

222 0000-0 HEZARA (10) (D) M N Horist 5-7-10 ... Dais Offices 5-2

224 0000-0 HEZARA (10) (D) M H Ponding 5-7-10 ... Dais Offices 5-2

225 0000-0 HEZARA (10) (D) M P Horister 7-7-10 ... Dais Offices 5-2

226 0000-0 HEZARA (10) (D) H P Horister 7-7-10 ... Dais Offices 5-2

227 0000-0 HEZARA (10) (D) H Ponding 7-11 ... Dais Offices 5-2

228 00000-0 HEZARA (10) (D) H Ponding 7-10 ... Dais Offices 5-2

229 00000-0 HEZARA (10) (D) H P Horister 7-7-10 ... Dais Offices 5-2

220 00000-0 HEZARA (10) (D) H P Horister 7-7-10 ... Dais Offices 15-2

220 00000-0 HEZAR 3.10 POURTABIS HANDICAP OF 25,710

Ration, 12-1 Palazagaio Totach, Brecongis Lac, Senzore
FORM CHINE - TRUER, Ahertys promisent, nidden over 25 cst, one pace, 3rd of 16, 71 behind Champagne
Grandy (Lingfields 77, 04-54).
TO THE BOOF Record stands' side, lod halway, ren on well, bt Dosectaby 21 (Messaethergh 54, 0dd)
CASTLERIES LADE Held up, good headway over 11 out, neurost times, 4th of 27, 61 behind Anzic, with TILER
(rec 28)) and TO THE ROOF (rec 18to) 21 away, dead-best for 5th, and PORTEND, BRECONGILL LAD,
ANDRYM and HIGBORN behind (Donesister 6, 16-bh)
SUPPER BRECORD, 4000 dear 10 best fiven ried Us by 51 (Caterick 77, 6d-5th).
THE SCYTHIANE Every chemic over 11 out, so extre featife Last, 4th of 5, 41 behind Tediburror (Sendown 51,

Exeter National Hunt runne

est form	-	~ v ~			
3,40 GALPHAY CO	MDITK E BLUI	DES STAKES SY FF (179) P Chep	O ten 11 nio-Hyan	65,003	

PORM GUIDES - SANTELLANIAL Led over "I out, ran on well, be Chemic Ballet "Si (Salabu SALNES: Challeged 21 out, ridden and unable to quicken towards sniet, 2nd of 4, 3u PORG GLUDS: SAFTELLAND LID OVER 17 DIE, get om with general Briefe, 2md pt 4, 31 Seited Schmidten (Heydock 1m, Gd).

DOUBLE DIAMONER Talled off 4m of 7, 141 bid Le Sport (Wolverheussion Imribby, Std)

DOUBLE DIAMONER Talled off 4m of 7, 141 bid Le Sport (Wolverheussion Imribby, Std)

COVICTE BLUFF: Soon pushed sides, Improved over 11 and, last on, 3md of 12, 462 bid Ultra Bark (Molverhumpton 64, Std).

4.10 STUDLEY ROYAL HANDICAP IN 41 BOYAL CAJON 4-10 STUBLEY ROYAL HANDROAP in at 80ys C2.008

501 1235-0 DAKRURY (20) Miss L Globil 4-8-10

502 3-5165 FORZAR (8) (0) J O'tient 4-8-8

503 00009- SEXPRESS GIFT (173) Mrs M Reveley 7-9-5

504 0213-14 ASHOVER (65) (00) GIFT) Barras 8-9-8

505 054-02 OUTSTAYED WELDDAKE (20) (CD) M Heyman 4-9-3

506 0748- BOWLIFFE (259) (CD) Mrs A Hespiton 5-9-1

507 70550- HASTA LA WRITA (194) (CD) M W Extensive 6-12

508 05-3124 BORLE CANORITE (17) S Bowring 4-8-5

9-10 00000- SPECIALIZE (277) K Buris 4-9-1

511 00000- SPECIALIZE (277) K Buris 4-9-1

512 0004- LOSTRES (388) M Dots 5-7-2

TORRESS (388) M Dots 5-7-12

TOP POINT TIPS: Pip's Dream 10, Express Gift E, Outstayed Welcome 7 Next Communication (No. 1) Post Communication (N FORM CHEES - Pers DEMAND Led over 1f ost, acon clear, of Cibarmel News 4 (Leicenter 15m, Gdl ECPRESS CHET; Steely headway Real 4f, 6th of 13, 10) behind Sogar Mid (Donzester 1761 122), Gd-Proj PONZANE Led on bit over 1f ost, seally, son switer by 21 from Anticop (Southwell 1 mid, Sm). NORME CANDESTE Always cheering insiders, one peace fined 2s, 4th of 18, 5t bits Estamo Net (Beverley Led Gd). DCT-DYTAYED WELCOME. Led until headed over 21 out, stayed on, 170 2nd to Heye Ya Katash (Do Don't app., Gd).

4.40 GRANTLEY MADRIE STAKES 1to \$2,784 45- ANGLIS-G (191) Mrs M. Ravoloy 4-9-13 23- BAKERF GATE (327) J Gosden 4-9-13 0- BOSTON ROCK (278) F Harts 4-9-13 MIDI- CAPTAIN TAKENY (788) C Smith 7-9-15 G. BOSTUM HOLM, UZ.107 T TRANSPORTED BY AND TO STAND TABLEY (788) C Swith 7-9-13

E. CLYTHA HILL LAD (40) J Brackey 5-9-73

LE KHOMES J Brackey 5-9-73

4. LOST LADOOR (249) H Lock 4-9-73

4. LOST LADOOR J LOSS J HAND TO TROMOS A 200-10 SWILL LEAD AWAY J Payre 4-9-73

SOLIARED AWAY J Payre 4-9-73

4. LOY OF LESSING HILL COCK 4-9-8

2 POLIMERSO (200) (8F) B HILL 3-9-72

BE ANY COLUMN (180) M CEMACKO 3-9-7

DE PARTYSHOOS (181) Mrs. J Parmoder 3-8-7

DE PARTYSHOOS (181) Mrs. J Parmoder 3-8-7

TOP FORM TH'S: Polipasso B. Bakers' Cate 7, Last Lacoca (FORM GUEDE - BAKERS' GATTE in louch, every phases over 11 cal, no settle close home, 3rd of 21, 198 Portind Holf Express (Newbury 1m, Gd). LINST LAGOOM Chesed legiste, ridden 21 birl, no exist 11 cm, 4th of 18, 22 bird Polydemius (Sen

5. 10 SANGLEY GANDICAP 370 1m 2f 63,187

Bettings 3-1 Strategic Proy. 5-1 Muhtadi, 7-1 None No Beards, Nor's Deed, 5-1 Sphiss Laveiv, 12-1 Energy Man, Ordained, 14-1 Pasnom Haze, Forgie, Champagne Warnor FORM GUIDE - MUNTADE: Eherl 31 out, edged red and teded final 21, less of 10, 191 behind Crystal Falls FORM (UNION - MUNI MARK SEAT IN THE TOTAL THE STATE OF TH

Results

WETHERBY 101 201 UTTOXETER 102 202 SOUTHWELL 103 203 120 220

(9-2): 2, Zichas (8-1): 3, Millitorum Classics
(25-1): 7-2 tav Parkillet. 12 ran. 9. 1. (N)
Bycrotif Tote: 0-50; C1.80. C3.00, C13.00
Dual F: E23-40. Tric. C210.80. CSF: C18.48.
Tricast C75-4 11.
3.30 (77): 1, HAWRIGALY HELL, K Falson
(3-1): 2, Deem The Yard (12-4): 3, Etheo(3-1): 2, Deem The Yard (12-4): 3, Etheo(3-1): 2, Deem The Yard (12-4): 3, Etheo(3-1): 2, Deam The Yard (12-4): 1, Silve(3-1): 2, Deam The Yard (12-4): 1, O'Reli(13-6): 1, Tricast (211.22.
4.00 (67): 1, NTEOWI, RAIDER, J O'Reli(14-1): 2, The Frinky Farmer, (13-9): 3,
4.00 (67): 1, NTEOWI, RAIDER, J O'Reli(14-1): 2, The Frinky Farmer, (13-9): 3,
4.00 (67): 1, FORT, J Culm (11-6 lav): 2,
4.30 (67): 1, FORT, J Culm (11-6 lav): 2,
7 Parfect Brant (20-1): 3, Assessme Verleire (10-1): 15 ren. 15. 6 (M W Easterby)
Tote: 12-30, 17-50, 13-20, E3-10 Dual F:
12-20, Tric. (111-50, CSF: 13-26, E3-10 Dual F:
12-20, Tric. (111-50, CSF: 13-52, E3-10 Dual F:
12-20, Tric. (111-50, CSF: 13-52, E3-52, Tric. (111-50)

CAST. Dual F: 13-52, E3-52, E3

UTTOXETER

over to Ripon today.
PLACEPOT: £115.90. QUADPOT: £15.30. WETHERBY

Along, Plinth. 15 ran. 6h hd. 7. (D Nicholson)
Tota: D8 40, 12.60, £13.00, £1.00. Dual F
E472.00. Trio: 1564.40, CSF: 1208.25. Tricast:
£1.171.86 NR E-frity.
3.40 (2m 6f Chip *1, MERPLINYS LAD, M A
Fittigerald 16-61av); 2, Juan Core Committee
(B-4); 3, Erfeano (B-1); 4 ran. 13, 15, 4/
Edwards) Tota: £1.70. Dual F: £2.10, CSF:
£2.93.
3.40 (2m Hdish); 1, HOLV WANDERER, Q
Hogan (7-2); 2, Bernes (15-2); 3, Dreams
Intel (3-4 law); 7 ran. 13, 15, 17 George) Tota:
8.40 (2m Hdish); 1, HOLV WANDERER, Q
Hogan (7-2); 2, Bernes (15-2); 3, Dreams
Intel (3-4 law); 7 ran. 13, 15, 17 George) Tota:
8.40 (2m BCh); 7, 18 NR: Natjati.
9.40 (2m BCh); 1, LAPRIV'S LORD, A P
McCoy (7-4 law); 2, Bernes (7-2); 3, Dreams
Oak (11-2). 5 ran. 9, 11, (P Nicnotia) Tota:
12.60; £1.10 £1.80. Dual F £5.50 CSF: 7.80.
4.40 (2m Hdish); 1, COUNTRY STAR, G
Bradley (3-1); 2, Bernes (5-1 law); 3, Tans
Assign Loak (14-1) 15 ran. 10, 7, 6 Brooks)
Tota: £3.00; £2.00, £2.20. Dual F: £3.70.
Tota: £3.00; £1.70. Tism. 10, 7, 6 Brooks)
Tota: £3.00; £1.70. Tism. 10, 7, 6 Brooks)
Tota: £3.00; £2.00, £2.20. Dual F: £3.70.

Hold (14-1) 15 ran. 10, 7, 6 Brooks)
Tota: £3.00; £2.00, £2.20. E2.20.

Hold (14-2) 5 ran. 9, 11, (P Nicnotia) Tota:
10.20 (2m Hdish); 1, NESSEAR; A P NacCoy
(4-1); 2, Groomes Gold (15-2); 3, Brader (2-1 law); 3, Jaselley (12-11) Tota:
10.20 (2m Hdish); 1, NESSEAR; A P NacCoy
(4-1); 2, Groomes Gold (15-2); 3, Brader (12-1); 10 ran.
10.41 (18 Heinerick) Tota: £2.30. Troc. (7-10, CSF)
10.41 (18-10); 10.42 (18-10); 10 4.50 (2m Helia): 1, SIGNING EDGE, R Garrity (4-1): 2, Centrum Express (8-4 fav): 2, Fair And Fancy (8-1), 67ah. 47. (7 Easterby) Tote: 55.10; 62.00; 61.40; Duel F 9.40; CSF 512.70. 5.20 (2m 46:10 yds Helia): 1, PUREVA-LUE, 6 Harding (5-4 lay): 2, Raites (7-2): 2, Transdaveood (14-1): 12 ran 6 11. (M W Easterby) Tote: 62.30; 51.70, 51.30, 52.60. Dual F: 12.90 Trio: 520.10; CSF: 55.55. NR Element of Rish. 2.20 (2m 4f 110 yds Hdfe): 1, POTTER'S

BAY, R. Johnson (2-1 lay): 2, Dawn Mission (4-1): 3, Desert Fighter (5-2) 13 mm

PLACEPOT: £17.60. QUADPOT: £14.90.

Gelog: Good to firm. 🖈 Depotes bilakers. Floures la brankets affair horse's sesse de 2.20 MEND HOTELS JUVENILE HURDLE 4YO 2m 2f 12,280 10 BORSY MORTH (12) G Thorser 10-12 ISSA PLEASANT SURPRESE (45) M Pipe 10-12 GM LESCORE LASS 440) Mean H Augin 10-7 2024 SWIVEL (32) D Nacholson 10-7 4 reserve 2.50 WEATHERSTS INSURANCE HOVICE CHASE 2m 7/ 1 10/ds C3,496 WEATHERSTS RESURRANCE MOVING CHASE 2m 7f 11
PROFF WASTER RYON (21) R Aiser 8-11-8
2-1 SOURCES STRONG (141) D RICHORON 7-11-6
#SOULCE AROTHER LUCAS (28) S KINICH (2-11-2)
ST CAMENO (26) (87) Miss H Kinich 9-11-2
LIPA BY MAIN HAM (9) MIS S Messer-Bennotts 2-11-2
LIPA BY MAIN HAM (9) MIS S Messer-Bennotts 2-11-2
LIPA POUNDONG SURF (28) J Mullin 7-11-2
LIPAP TOARTAM BOSS (40) P FINICIA 7-00-11 W McFarland R Johnson (3) May L Meckfo tilling: Grens Sounds Strong, 6-1 Camino, My Main Man, 7-1 Tarten Mose, 8-1 Master Ryon, 25-1

Pounding Surt, Hain And Titry	
3.20 TOTE CREDIT HAMDRICAP RURDLE 2m 3f 110yds C3,775 2.270-FP LEBORES MRL (26) M PDF 7-2-0 2.50/20-00 MAJOR BUGLER (15) G Bolding 7-11-4 3.11134F- MISSTY REEL (16) G Bolding 7-11-4 4.0153F TUSCALRY RODRIYAY (25) P Robes 7-10-13 5.34FA1 GROUND MUT (19) (27) R Excite 4-10-9 6.24(1-4) KEEP KE M MIND (11) M MELTINI 1-7-10-0 7.222-0 MAJOR KEEP SCOTTY (2) (2) N Harbs 7-10-0 8.61-0300 SABANG RE UP SCOTTY (2) (2) N Harbs 7-10-0 8.61-0300 SABANG RE WER (26) (20) Mrs J Rober 72-10-0 C Minds Berting 7-2 Tuscany Highway, 3-2 Major Bugles . 11-2 Lamon s Mill, Keep Me In Mind, 5-1 Guard N	y (5) 3)
Day Coal 14 Boom Mo In Scotts Satisf Rose	

rs	and riders	n &S.L. 1
3.5	O SAMETON SAIDS NOTEL MOVICE WORDLE 2m 3/ 110/ds C	1,267
	D. L. C.	D Slovene
1 2	THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY	
1 1	4. A SECT OF EDITION (197) Miles of Kingsin 6-11-0	
4		
5		
6	5-500 CINERAL SALUTE (19) G Baiding 5-11-0 372 MANDY WEATHER (19) D Gendolio 7-11-0	Diamer
7	3P2 HARDY WEATHER (19) D GENORIS 1-11-0	T J Haraby (3)
	or the court Manager of 1 /000 C Baldion 7-11-7	
10	D MR MICLE (1-3) D Bloomfield 7-13-0	R Durke
11	TALM BALLADERS BOY (400 Mrs. J Reper 6-13-0	C Name
12	04-04 PALLADOR BOTY (28) C Popher 6-11-0 DP-40 RAMEDS POHET (28) C Popher 6-11-0 DF-0 STORE BRANKLE (19) With H Kright 6-11-0 24/2006 TAP SHOES (240) R Buker 6-11-0 P STORY REPAIRE (118) 3 Horn 7-10-0	T Descembe (3)
13	OP-0 STORE BRANKE (19) With H Kright 6-11-0	R Jelmino (2)
14	24/2006- TAP SHOES (349) R Baker 6-11-0	BPOOL
15	P STONY MISSELE (119) 3 Hom 7-10-6	
Betth Brazzi	gs 5-2 Best Of Friends, 5-1 Karen's Typhoon, 7-1 Marter Hopefull, No. 10-1 General Saluio, 14-1 Palledism Boy	Hardy Weather, 9-1 Stool 16 remount
4.5	O TOTE BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP CHASE 2m 3f 1107th 04,6	
1	1FTPUB WISE APPROACH (26) (C) K Balley 9-12-0	S SicteM
2	STORE CERTIFIC OF DISABOURS (24) (TO R Ainer 11-11-2	W Morastand
3	111 (LAS TARRIS (127) (12) (11) Mrs. Reflect 11-10-6	
4	- SEES 1 COMPT DEPOTED IN A 2 TO 15th and G Relation 6-10-7	A P NoCOY
5	41/231U- SYDNEY BARRY (638) (CD) R Buckler 11-10-1	B Powell
6		
7	5PF442 AAS BREAKER (28) 8 Million 9-10-0	
8	P11F4-8 BRESEPTON HERETIE (130) D Chappel 7-10-1	(5)
Appro	age 7-4 Comb d'Estraval, 4-1 Sévén Ol Dalmonde, 5-1 Justimenter, 7 agh, Royal Square, 16-1 Ratito, Brimpton Berlie	-1 Syoney Barry, 10-1 Wisi 6 rumber
4.	O VICTORIA HOTEL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HICAP HURBLE	
1	00-60F8 WISE STATEMENT (125) (C) G Baiding 7-11-10	
1 2	402002 MASSTAROL (B) (CD) Pi Hodges 7-13-7	T Descombs 🛪
I 3	SEARCH CHICAGO OF CALCADO I Provide 7-11-1	
Ă	SOPIOS CALEFORS CONTRACTOR (7) C Pockets 6-10-12	
6	44550 DUE OF DESAME (120 B Rains 6-10-1)	G Tabbay
6	036601 ALLAHRAKHA (21) (CD) Mrs J Retter 5-10-11	T.J. (4)
7	31-0F063 SHEEP STRALLER (9) R Poucock B-10-10	Carle Webb
8	00088-5 RAKNAGAR (298) Miss H Knight 5-10-5	(4)
	30LP/-P2 POLLY LEACH (19) 8 Milimen 8-10-5	

Butting 2-1 Mustahli, 13-4 Albertaine, 5-2 Polly Leach, 6-1 Chris's Glen, 6-1 Rakmagar

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'Margarine is good. Butter is bad.'

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PARTIALLY FUNDED BY THE EEC.

You even hear talk about margarines being low in calories. But, ounce for ounce, margarine contains just as many calories as butter.

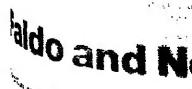
Finally, of course, there's the matter of taste. They say that marge tastes as good as butter.

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THE BUTTER COUNCIL





صكنا من الاحل

Smelling of roses . . . Cliff Brittle makes a stand TOM JENGEN

Rugby Union

Robert Armstrong sees Cliff Brittle win the first battle with the leading clubs in the struggle for the control of the game in England

Twickenham lays down the law

HE Rugby Football cauntlet to England's top clubs with a decisive show of authority, spelling out detailed plans for next season's league and cup com-petitions which will include Anglo-Weish and European Twickenham has also in-

sisted that relegation from eague One will take place this season as originally planned. West Hartlepool and either Gloucester, Bristol or Saracens will go down.

Next season League One will once again consist of 10 clubs with this season's top clubs with this season's top four qualifying for the Euro-pean Cup while the remain-der take part in a new Anglo-Welsh League. England's divisional teams have also been given a new lease of life. The Divisional Championship has been replaced by a new competition with games against Argentina, the Junior Springboks and Queenland

The decision not to expand League One to 12 clubs means that second-from-bottom Gloucester's meeting with the tonight takes on an extra

Gloucester's coaching di-rector Richard Hill said last night: "We always knew this was the likely decision and we have worked all season on the basis that it will remain a 10-club division. So we are disappointed but not surprised at the decision."
In effect Twickenham has

called the bluff of the League

One clubs, who have hinted at a breakaway should the

union not accede to their de-mands. The clubs are ex-

The solid front presented by the RFU puts the onus on the clubs to come with an alternative plan of action with sufficient funding to off-set the money they would lose by withdrawing from the RFU. lated into reality if the clubs hope to regain the initiative from Twickenham.

The top clubs demand to be allowed to renegotiate their own TV contracts for new competitions has been given short shrift by the RFU execu-tive chairman Cliff Brittle, who recently has been the target of a campaign of personal abuse by the clubs. Brittle rejected a new man-agement structure proposed

by the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (EPRUC) which would have seriously diluted the executive powers of the union. He also criticised what he called the "protectionism" of

well as the principle of deter mining league status on the basis of results alone. Brittle also spoke of "wel-coming some wealthy individ-

the top clubs, who were seek-ing to abolish relegation as

waiting in the wings along and whose motivation and ex-with satellite television com-panies must now be trans-our own". That was an indirect reference to Newcastle's Sir John Hall, who is understood to have had an emo-Brittle during last Thursday's round of talks which ended in deadlock without a date being

set for a further meeting. The clubs have rejected an RFU plan that would allow them to set up their own management board with a sepa-rate director of national clubs who would have authority for the day-to-day running of the

Brittle said the RFU was ready to form joint working groups with the clubs in the areas of marketing televi-sion, sponsorship and competitions. Twickenham would retain "a power of veto" to

prevent major changes in pol-icy affecting the game. Nevertheless, Brittle did offer the clubs an olive branch over money that could

tion has secured new money, he explained, adding that the television companies had confirmed their intention to nagotiate only with the unions. There must be a fair distri-

bution of money," he said.

Don Rutherford, the RFU technical director who is a

member of the negotiating team, rejected the analogy Sir John Hali has drawn between rugby union and professional soccer in determining a blue-print for the future along the

internationals after his stamp on England's Ben Clarke at the Parc des Princes in January, has been rested.

Four uncapped players have been picked, the hooker Hervé Guiraud, the hooker Hervé Guiraud, the lock Hugues Miorin, the face Romania in Aurillac on Saturday week. He is at Venditti.

"We are committed to seri | lines of the Premier Division ously helping fund the too The arrival of a new main on clubs where their participa | the block with characteristic. qualities seems to the con-fused the minds of many League One and League Two club officials." said

> 23 in the world while England 23 in the world while logical rugby is in the top four. English soccer is also 48 times the size of English rugby spend \$2.5 million on development work which is 21 per teht of our income. What do soccer

France pick Dourthe at full-back

CENTRE DOURTHE, the | full-back, replacing Jean-centre banned for two | Luc Sadourny, who has Incentre banned for two internationals after his

been rested.

Merry Sherry can mellow the Masters

David Davies at Augusta on the Amateur champion preparing for the Masters - his final fling before joining the professionals

National clubhouse yesterday, entertaining, with complete aplomb, the world's press. The 6ft 8in Scot, the Amateur champion, had just completed his first full round of the course, and we wanted to know his impressions.

the haven of the lawn by an armed Pinkerton security guard through throngs of autograph seekers, but was totally unfazed by their atten-

tions, or by ours.
"Well," he said, "I started birdie, birdie ..." and stopped and grinned, as he "That's not bad is it?" was the unspoken assertion, on to birdle the long 8th and eagle the long 15th with a 40-foot putt and was round in an

approximate 70. Nor was that all. As he approached the 13th green the large crowd burst into song. 'Happy birthday to you,' they sang, to celebrate Sherry's 22nd, on Monday. Sherry was not totally im-pressed by that either. "I

As debuts go, though, it was impressive. Playing with Sam Torrance, Ian Woosnam and Frank Nobilo he looked not the least out of place and it is clear that he is able to put Augusta in its context. "Sam and Ian told me to have fun and I'll be a professional and it'll all be different." It was a bit like the incident in the Open when, playing with Greg Nor-man, he said to him on the 10th tee: "I know it's not advisable to take a driver off this tee, but I'm an amateur so I'm going to." He then

drove the green.
Sherry takes things seriously when he feels he has to, hence two little anippets from his recent past. The first sees him standing, disconsolate and inconsolable, outside the clubhouse at Ashburnham, in South Wales, after Scotland had just played England in the Home Internationals.

Meaning well, a journalist says to him: "Well at least you won, Gordon." And Sherry irritably turns away, saying: That just doesn't matter at all." Scotland, his team, had

Fast forward to Royal Porthcawl and the Walker Cup, 1995. In the United States Woods, winner of three successive US boys' champi-onships and the last two full amateur championships. At a press conference the bulk of the questioning was on the theme of Sherry versus Woods rather than Great Britn and Ireland versus the than he thinks, I know he's find a competition to play be practised at Valderrama, but fore Augusta. "I used to go something Sherry has also Sherry acquiesces for a you can do that until the cows and play in the Duncan Potter done this year. "The two ain and Ireland versus the

ORDON SHERRY while, but eventually his pa-stood on the lawn in front of the Augusta says, "this is not between me and Tiger. If I play Tiger four times this week and lose every time, but the team wins, that'll be fine by me."

GB & L of course, went on to win a famous victory, largely fuelled by the inspir-ing presence of Sherry, whose leadership made a huge dif-ference, on and off the course. By the end of this week, Sherry will have left an ama-teur world he has dominated for the past couple of years. When his last putt is holed at the US Masters here, he will turn professional and three weeks later make his professional debut in the Italian Open. Oddly enough the de-

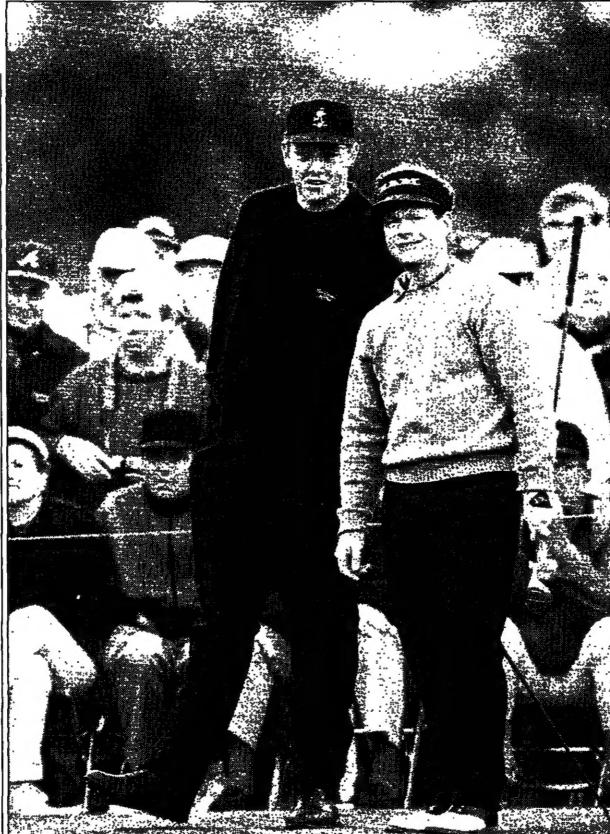
fending champion will be Sherry's hero, Sam Torrance. He leaves a world in which his finest achievements were in match-play — runner-up in the Amateur championship at Nairn in 1994, winner at Hoy-lake in 1995 — for a world where the measure of success is a constant grind of 72-hole stroke-play events. But such is the perceived talent of this pressed by that either. "I is the perceived talent of this haven't had any presents Kilmarnock golfer that every game was in the rush to sign him. Carnegie International, the Scottish company, won.
The general faith in him

was intensified by two quite outrageous weeks in 1985. In the first of them he played in last year's Scottish Open at Carnoustie when, without ever quite getting into contention, he came fourth and would have won over £30,000. Next came the Open itself, when, after holing in one in the practice rounds, in company with the likes of Tom Watson and Jack Nicklaus, he began with rounds of 70 and 71. The first of them beat one of his partners, Greg Norman, by one shot, the second beat both Norman and Watson, his other partner.

It is also a fact that an ama-It is also a fact that an amateur playing in a professional event has nothing like the same pressures as the prosthemselves, which may help him here this week. He will certainly need all the help he can get, for no course in the world offers a more formidable test to the inexperienced. ble test to the inexperienced. The only British amateur to make the cut, Peter McEvoy. did so in 1978, after rounds of 73 and 75, which were fol-lowed by scores of 77, 76. McEvoy is quite proud of his achievement but admits: "For the first time in several

vears I'm worried that someone may match me. There have been no great golfers at his height, but he does have rhythm and he does seem to have the personality to deal with the big occasion.
"But it's going to be harder

than he thinks, I know he's practised at Valderrama, but



Young shoulders, old head \dots Sherry discusses his drive at the 8th with the veteran Tom Watson

ters so far played there. McEvoy always tried to

come home, because what you really need is competitive play, and we have none of that at this time of year."

Sherry, incidentally, had rounds of 70, 73, 68 and 70 at Valderrama, seven under, a total that would have won five of the eight Volvo Masters so far played there.

McEvoy played in three made the cut have years I missed the cut I was doing exams, so it was difficult was a doing exams, so it was difficult and I kept having a doing exams, so it was difficult, and I kept having a seven or an eight somewhere along the line."

Sherry has not played competitive conditions."

McEvoy played in three made the cut is was of the cut I was doing exams, so it was difficult, and I kept having a seven or an eight somewhere along the line."

Sherry has not played competitive on thing he may miss, for every other golfer in the field will be match fit. But the Scot has prepared as well nutt on the 14th once and I was seven or an eight somewhere. Sherry has not played competitive conditions." Masters tournaments, and the year he made the cut he went

note. I had an eight-not birdle the Scot has prepared as well putt on the 14th once and I as he can, is far from overknew if it didn't go in I'd be awed, loves the course and expects to do well. It could be a next shot. It didn't and I formidable combination.

Rugby League

Summer off to a Super start

Paul Fitzpatrick on rising crowds and growing interest

THE CASE for or against "summer" rugby will not be answered for rounds of the Super League attendances are moving in the right direction after a dis-Crowds for the opening round of Super League were he best since the re-introduc tion of two-division football in 1973 and a total of 88,236 spectators watched 11 Super League games — average - over Baster. This is only 11,000 fewer than the total for last Easter's 16match programme, which produced an average of 6,242 a

While the overall figures are heartening there have been some notable individual successes. During the Centenary season London Broncos were watched by an average crowd of 2,386, which in itself was a spectacular rise on the previous season's 814.

Yet their first home crow at The Valley for the visit of Paris last week drew almost age. It is almost certain to drop, but if the Broncos can win the bulk of their home more rewarding pay-days at The Valley with the likes of Wigan, Leeds and St Helens still to come.

Paris, too, have started promisingly. Their crowd of 6.227 for Monday's game with Oldham, not the game's top drawing card, was a big decrease from the near-18,000 gate for their first game against Sheffield Eagles at Charlety Stadium. But that was inevitable, and if Parls can maintain support around this level they will be well

The acid test, as Maurice Lindsay acknowledged yester-day, will come, perhaps, when summer reaches its zenith and the counter-attractions

are much greater. But after recent problems the Rugby League's chief executive

could afford to be upbeat.

He welcomed not only improved crowds but also what he saw as higher standards of performance. "Super League is continuing its healthy trend, even though the weather is yet to turn into the warmth of the summer," he

"Another aspect of Super League which, in my opinion, is important is that the play-ers are becoming better. The pace of the game has dramati-cally increased under the new rules and that will lead to the sort of fitness levels achieved by the Australians.

"I am sure that when the international playing scene settles down, as it mevitably will, our national team will demonstrate those improved performance levels.

Results so far have also contor. After three rounds of Super League, St Helens are the only unbeaten side and Wigan are in the unfamiliar position of having to make up lost ground. Workington are fulfilling

predictions but otherwise there is a much greater sense of competition than was apseason.

Jason Robinson, Wigan's international winger who married recently, now wants to stay at Central Park rather than take up a four-year contract — due to start next year — worth £1 million with the Australian Rugby League. Jack Robinson, Wigan's chairman, says that they want to keep the player, "but whether we can afford to match the ARL contract is something was will have to something we will have to think long and hard about". Neil Harmon, the Leeds

captain and open-side prop. has been cleared of any serious injury after being carried off in Monday's game against St Helens. It took four minutes to get Harmon, whose neck was put in a brace, off the pitch after a collision with Apollo Perelini.

London ask league to view video evidence

Broncos accuse referees of unfair treatment

THE London Bruncos have accused referees of sing-ling them out for unfair treat-ment in the European Super "The in-goal judge ruled no League and have asked the Rugby Football League to their first three mames in the

new competitition.
'The Broncos' football manager Robbie Moore has offered the penalty counts in evidence to back up the com-plaint: 11-4 at Halifax Blue Sox, 8-2 at home to Paris St Germain and 15-9 at Bradford Bulls.

"We're asking Greg McCallum, the referees' supervisor to look at the videos of those sames and tell us where we are going wrong. It's some-thing we want to put right,"

"We don't want to be thought of as whingeing Aussies and, anyway, we've won two of those three games. But it's something that requires the league's urgent attention otherwise our players, not to mention our fans, will start to become disillusioned."

The Broncos lost their unpeaten record 34-21 at Bradford on Monday. "The try that

try but the referee gave it.
"On another occasion one of our players Duncan McRae

down when he was flat on his back with Bradford players flopping all over him.
"It's these sort of decisions which we find inexplicable

was sin-binned for holding

about it - and quickly." Paris St Germain will be without their Australian stand-off Todd Brown for at least six weeks with a broken jaw. Tas Baitieri, the Paris football manager, sald: "The injury to Todd is a blg blow, but injuries are something we have to learn to live with and

Denis Betts, the former Wigan forward, has been suspended for two matches after being sent off during Auckland Warriors' game with Western Suburbs last week.

Betts, the first Auckland

player to be dismissed, said his alleged head-butt was careless but not malicious. and felt "embarrassed" by the helped bring the home side incident, which he felt had level came from a pass from cost his side the game The Sonny Nickle that went for Warriors lost 22-8.

Faldo and Norman feel best week is to come

David Davies at Augusta

ICK FALDO was emphatic, dismissive even "Greg Norman? Win the Masters? No chance. He's missed two cuts in a row, so write him off quick. I think that's the end of him, really. He's gone."

As attempted jokes go, it was about par for the course for Faldo — it did not even

In fact Faldo feels he could be in the best condition that he has ever been for a Masters. "Theoretically." he said,

ranked as a blow for investigative journalism. Faldo, the proven professional, knows an improvement in my put then he has to, hasn't he?

in 1990, both times in play- nold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, "coming over to America and offs, and not only has he not Lee Trevino. They are all still playing on their type of won at Augusta since, he has playing great golf."

better than to expect a repetition on the basis of two failures. He has done it himself feel I've been playing nicely and I'm just waiting for it all the first of the playing nicely has ego remains intact.

In plot we may not be the tring just because I've been on that his golfing life will flourthat his golf will his his forties.

to happen."

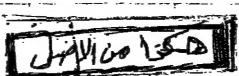
It has been a long time goes by in this game. And since it did for Faldo. He won the Masters in 1989 and again drive in themselves, like Ar-

only tournament we play in that's pure golf, including all the other major championships. There are no corporate tents; you see the same faces in the same places in the same places. lery every year and you get to know people and where they sit. Those are the traditions that you really love to play with and understand."

And when the stands aren't in place for a major you have no idea where you're going."

He added: "I would also always say Augusta favours It is sometimes difficult to

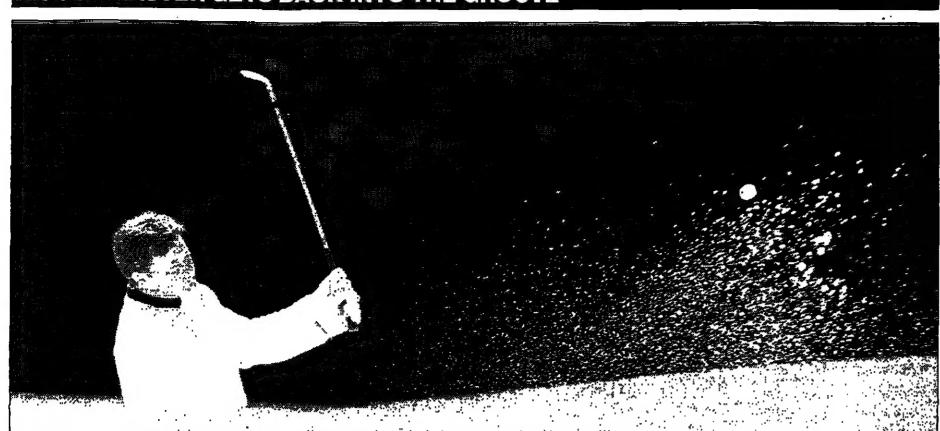
long hitters. But Ben Crenrealise that, for all his fame, shaw has won here and he's Norman has won only two short, and Davis Love has not raise a titter — but then the course week after week not won a major champion—Norman has a special majors and yesterday he and he's very long. Now how original question hardly means that I am comfortable ship since the Open of 1992. regard for Augusta. "It's the revealed he "hated" the do you figure that out."



Walking tall with Gordon Sherry, page 15

bortsGuardian





Sandy for sure ... Ian Woosnam, the 1991 US Masters champion, splashes out of a bunker at the back of the 5th in a practice round at Augusta yesterday. He partnered Gordon Sherry, the Amateur champion from Scotland who will finally turn professional next week

Doubts cloud Atlanta Games

With 100 days to go to the Olympics there are major cash problems | can get. Though public money | filing into the Olympic Sta | meeting on May 18. "The standard one Atlanta | modifications have caused a with the stadium yet to be finished, **Duncan Mackay** reports

pics reaches the 100day mark this morning, organisers are that threaten to overshadow the giant party planned for the celebration of the Centen-

tion of the Olympic swim-ming arena following the \$4 million suit against the or-when it needs every cent it right up to the time people are

STHE countdown to collapse of two beams only the Atlanta Olym- minutes after being put up; growing local concern about crime and terrorism during the Games; and worries that these privately funded Games still need \$200 million (£131 million) to cover the \$1.7

the giant party planned for the celebration of the Centennial Games.

These include: a multi-million they will cost to stage.

These include: a multi-million they will cost to stage.

Potentially, the most damaging is the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games' (ACOG) legal dispute with the designers of the stadium.

The designers have filed a staging the or-

ganisers for unpaid overtime; the ACOG has retaliated by counter-suing for \$6 million, claiming that that is the cost of a project overrun it alleges occured because of the de signers' negligence.
On Monday, a Superior

Court judge agreed to bring the legal battle forward to the end of April because of the uncertainty of the Olympic organisation. If the ACOG loses it will blow a major hole

security and relaying streets, organisers are relying on cor-porate sponsorship, TV, sou-venir sales and ticket orders

to stage the Games. money is so acute that orga-nisers have sanctioned Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy as official "Game Shows of the Olympic Games" and sold the ous five-ring logo to companies making burglar alarms, hot dogs, air conditioning and soap.

"We're so desperate for money we'll probably be sell-

The International Olympic Committee has warned At-lanta that it will not bail it out if it is unable to pay its bills. "All along we've been told by Atlanta that their revenue forecast is solid and that if it looks like they're not go-ing to make it, they'll cut what they have to cut," said Richard Pound, an IOC

The ACOG wants the \$6 million from the designers to reinforce the steel skeleton of the stadium, which will stage the opening ceremony on July 19, the athletics and the closing celebration.

Those repairs have been going on since the autumn when covered structural problems after one of the light towers collapsed and killed a construction worker. Last month, four workers quit after two girders collapsed at the swimming arena 15 minutes after being erected. It means the completion of both stadiums

Finishing the 12 arenas that are being built and taking over the 20 existing facilities it must adapt for Olympic use remain Atlanta's biggest tasks over the next few weeks. The 85,000-seat, \$230be completed for a grand prix | will be ticking that bit louder. | be."

modifications have caused a lot of grief," said Lyn May, an ACOG spokeswoman.

Since Atlanta was awarded the Games six years ago, the mood of the city has swung from fear to excitement. While it is looking forward to being the focus of the world's attention for two weeks, many residents who recall what happened at Munich in 1972 happened at Munich in 1972 when 11 Israeli athletes were killed wonder what else that might bring. More than 71 per cant of people in a local newspaper poll indicated terrorism was a major concern.

"They are probably going to have some of the safest ven-ues in the history of the Games," said Brent Brown, president of Chesley Brown rate and retail security in At-lanta. "But does that mean the city is safer? Or does that mean it just pushes out the problems to non-venue loca-tions? I believe it does."

For all the problems, Billy Payne, whose dream it was to bring the Olympics to Atlanta and who is president of the ACOG, remains optimistic.

"All of us are about to encounter what will become one of the most intense, nerveracking but wonderful times of our lives," he said. "But we will be ready. We have to be." From today, though, the clock

Fading away into a funk on the Tyne



Vincent Hanna

week. He used to take me to football ported Cliftonville, an ama-teur side in the Irish League. They hardly ever won. By the age of 10 I was an expert in losers' jokes. So I says to the man on the gate: "Two at three and six please." And he says: "What do you want — backs or forwards?

I once sat near the directors' box. They were dumbstruck as somebody kicked the ball over the stand into the street. One turned to my uncle and remarked: "Aw Christ there

goes the gate money."
Gerard had the good taste to die during Liverpool v Newcastle last Wednesday, thus ensuring that his name will be ever linked with the game of the decade. That will please

Since I nearly had a cardiac arrest myself, I wonder at the damage the Premiership run-in is doing to community health in Newcastle. My friend Mick teaches at the Uni-

versity and used to make me stand at the Gallowgate end of St James' Park of a Saturday. The price he made me pay later was too high. My system can absorb only so much Newcastle Brown and Lindisfarne.

Mick called me yesterday: "The city is stunned and mo-rose," he said. "People stare into their beer and weep, the music is gone. It's like a city after an air raid or an earthquake. All about me is the silence of death."

"Hold on Mick, it's not over yet."
"We know that," said Mick.

ter United are not. That's the difference." Kevin Keegan is the Camillo in our Winter's

I thought: "You know-it-all bastard." But I said: "Good point, Mick." And looked it

After Monday's match at Ewood Park Kevin bravely apeared for the cameras. His face was ashen.

"Obviously I want us to defend better, but I don't know what we could have done different tonight." And then: "At the end of the day if it's not meant to be, it's not meant to

In The Winter's Tale, Leontes the king of Sicily chides Camillo for his lack of nerve. Camillo admits that he has found himself fearful to do a thing, where I the issue doubted, whereof the execution did cry out against the non-performance, 'twas a fear which oft infects the wisest.

Newcastle have played in a free-flowing manner. They say they don't deserve this mis-ery, this horrible thought of coming second. But maybe they do. Going forward is not enough. neither is wanting to win. Not by itself, it's not.

Champions also have to want not to lose, to hate defeat as much as they crave victory. On January 22 Newcastle had 54 points, Liverpool and Manchester United 42. All three had played 23 games. Since then Newcastle have earned 13 points out of a poss ible 30. Manchester's record is

31 out of 33.
Faustino Asprilla arrived to play — and displace Keith Gillespie — on February 10. Asprilla provides subtlety and strength in front of goal, but Newcastle's 12-point lead was

earned by other means. So it was on Monday, Gilles pie came on for Asprilla after 73 minutes. Two minutes later he coaxed Kenna and Wilcox out to the right touchline. And the gap was there for David Batty to find.

But it wasn't enough. How could it be when Newcastle's execution in attack cries out against their non-performance in defence?

else too. Champions are not normal people. They thrive on fear, living on the edge because that is where they are happiest. Walter Hagen once partied all night before a play-off. He was asked whether this might give his opponent an advantage. Mark well his reply: "He may be in bed — but he ain't

ent mood of Eric Cantona, who has scored six goals in as eight, held by Bill Whelan, who died at Munich.

Cantona imposes an icy calm upon his youthful team mates. Not only do they cope with tension, they appear to enjoy it. The fans, the manager and Manchester also have been infected with seren ity sickness. Win or lose, they are not afraid.

During the Ardennes campaign a soldier found George Patton standing in the midst of a bloody attack. He urged the general to quit the line of

Patton whispered: "God help me — I love it so.



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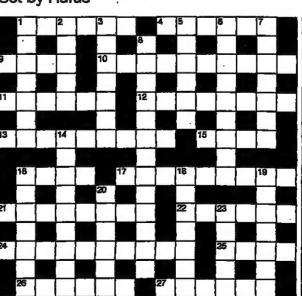


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Guardian Crossword No 20,623

Set by Rufus



Across

- 1 Chemistry student's tes
- 4 Bill on the line expresses
- 9 It is bad form not to (4) 10 Cowardly sailor gets fever
- 12 Singers are barred in it (4,4) 13 Nominates reforms in US
- state (9)
- 16 Cut the end off a weed (4)
- Madrid (3.7) 25 Gallery of immortals (4)
- 27 Fly or flest, would you say? (5) Down
 - 2 Play time (5)
- habits (7)
- 11 A student with many grants
- 15 Right out of line (4)
- 17 Fashion model glad to win first prize (4,5)
- 21 Branch is not on fire (3-5) 22. Sends away for books (6) 24 One all a-flutter about Real

- 26 Hearing is difficult (6)
- 1 Rock singer (7)
- 3 Greek hero, oddly sly in
- 5 So rich a blend of voices (6) 6 Impersonal aim (9)
- 7 Figure new dance is without
- 8 World-travellers from Harlem? (13)
- 14 Shift scenery as required (9) 16 Glance shows a novice in fault (7)
- 18 Does old-fashioned scribbles (7)
- 20 Sort of market for land (6)

19 Out down a dentist's work (7) 23 Teachings that follow closely on a degree (5)

This week's winners of a Colfins English Dictionary are S L Conway of . Leeds LS17 BJG, Palp Gutts of Eaton, Norwich, NR4 BLT, Mrs R M Newman of Teston, Maldstone, Kent ME18 5.55 Local Menticage of ME18 5AS, Joan Mack Edinburgh, EH16 6SW,

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